

WJAC-TV

Quarterly Problems Program Report

January 1, 2001 to March 31, 2001

Filed: April 10, 2001

**Submitted by:
Mark Barash
Program Director / General Manager**

Quarterly Problems Program Report Programs Line-Up

KEY TO PUBLIC AFFAIRS PROGRAMMING			
RICKI LAKE	10:00 AM – 11:00 AM	MONDAY – FRIDAY	48:00
MAURY POVICH	11:00 AM – 12:00 PM	MONDAY – FRIDAY	48:00
EXTRA	1:30 PM – 2:00 PM	MONDAY – FRIDAY	24:00
NEWSCENTER 6	5:00 PM – 6:00 PM	MONDAY – FRIDAY	40:00
NEWSCENTER 6	6:00 PM – 6:30 PM	MONDAY – SUNDAY	20:00
NEWSCENTER 6	11:00 PM – 11:35 PM	MONDAY – SUNDAY	25:00
LAST OF THE BUFFALO SOLDIERS	7:30 PM – 8:00 PM OTO SPECIAL	SATURDAY, 2/24/01	21:00
HERITAGE DISCOVERY CENTER SPECIAL	7:30 PM – 8:00 PM OTO SPECIAL	FRIDAY, 3/23/01	21:00

WJAC-TV

PUBLIC AFFAIRS RELATED PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

RICKI LAKE – A national syndicated program that discusses controversial and social issues. The show concentrates on one topic and follows an interview format with expert consultants and guests. The show airs Monday – Friday, 10:00 – 11:00 AM.

MAURY POVICH – A national syndicated program that discusses controversial and social issues. The show concentrates on one topic and follows an interview format with expert consultants and guests. The show airs Monday – Friday, 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM.

EXTRA – A national syndicated program that presents news on a wide variety of topics, ranging from entertainment, to health, business, event coverage, safety, and social issues. The show follows a news magazine format, introducing reports submitted by show correspondents of varying lengths. The show airs Monday – Friday, 1:30 – 2:00 PM.

NEWSCENTER 6 - The Channel 6 News Department uses the ascertained problems of the community as a basis to decide what topics should be dealt with more extensively than the day-to-day news coverage. Listed in this report are the news stories that covered the ascertained issues. The stories listed aired on 5:00 pm, 5:30 pm, 6:00 pm, and 11:00 pm newscasts.

LEGEND OF BUFFALO SOLDIERS – This one-time-only special examined the role of the Buffalo soldiers in securing the western frontier and consequent wars overseas. The soldiers themselves recount emotional stories of their experiences preserving this nation's freedoms from foreign threats while battling against racism and prejudice at home. The show follows a documentary format and aired Feb. 24th 7:30 – 8:00 PM.

HERITAGE DISCOVERY CENTER SPECIAL – This one-time-only special examined the exhibits at a newly opened Heritage Discovery Center. The exhibits depict the situations faced by immigrants to Western Pennsylvania during the age of the Industrial Revolution. Ethnic discrimination in the area of jobs and housing is profiled. The show follows a documentary format and aired March 23rd 7:30 – 8:00 PM.

**QUARTERLY PROBLEMS PROGRAM REPORT
ASCERTAINED ISSUES
JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH 2001**

1. CRIME / PENAL SYSTEM
2. EDUCATION
3. HEALTH / MENTAL HEALTH / DRUGS / ALCOHOL
4. CONSUMER AWARENESS
5. GOVERNMENT / POLITICS
6. SAFETY / QUALITY OF LIFE
7. EMPLOYMENT / UNDEREMPLOYMENT / LABOR / ECONOMY
8. RACIAL / ETHNIC ISSUES

***REPORT ALSO INCLUDES INFORMATIONAL NEWS OF PUBLIC INTEREST UNDER THE ABOVE CATEGORIES.**

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: CRIME JANUARY

1/01/01, 6 / 11 PM, Monday Marty Radovanic

EM'S ROBBERY

The police search continues for a man who walked into the Franklin Street Em's Sub Shop, and demanded money at gunpoint. The robbery occurred Saturday night around 9:00 p.m. The police have issued a description of the robber which is on the screen now and asked citizens for help in tracking him down..

:33 - SOT/VO

1/03/01, 5 / 6 / 11 PM, Wednesday Gary Sinderson

INVESTMENT SCAM

It's termed one of the largest white -collar crime cases in Centre County, now the victims are speaking out. They say they've lost almost one hundred and seventy thousand dollars. Gary Sinderson talked to them today about how they were taken in by the scam and what you can do to recognize a scam..

1:05 - Package

::32 - Live

Jean Menhold - Investor

Harold Menhold - Investor

Lance Marshall - Assistant D.A. Centre County

1/05/01, 5 PM, 5:30, 6, 11 Friday Marty Radovanic, Jeff Levkulich

MURDER ARREST

There is relief tonight as police solve the murder of an area teen. Police continue their search for one of the three men believed responsible for the robbery and shooting death of a Johnstown teenager but the other two suspects have been arrested, including the man who police say killed 18-year old Aaron Coyle.

1:43 - SOT/VO

David Tulowitzki - District Attorney

Students and teachers at Johnstown High School are keeping a close eye on the investigation into schoolmate Aaron Coyle's death, and with an arrest in the case, comes some relief for students who were afraid to walk the street following the murder. Live from Johnstown High is Jeff Levkulich.

1:14 - Package

:26 - Live

Jasmin Meyer - Student

Alan Johnson - Principal

Dana Furdella - Student

1/08/01, 5/6 PM, Monday Jen Kallin

SERIOUS CRIME

A surge of armed robberies in the city of Johnstown prompts police in neighboring counties to step-up their efforts to fight crime.

:43 SOT/VO

John Treese- Altoona Police

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: CRIME JANUARY

1/08/01, 6 / 11 PM, Monday Lisa Stofko

ADDED PROTECTION

There has been a surge of violent crime in the Johnstown area recently. As Lisa Stofko reports, it seems some folks are arming themselves for protection.

1:25 – Package

Bob Kolar- Cambria County Sheriff

Bobby Burke – Johnstown resident

Paul Hornick – Hornick's Sporting Goods store owner

1/09/01, 5:30 PM, Tuesday Carmen Grant

DRUG BUST

Police in Blair County nab dozens of suspected drug dealers in an overnight raid in Altoona. The raid should have a major impact on drug traffic in that area. Carmen Grant was there when the bust took place and has the story.

1:23 – Package

Mike Fisher – Attorney General

David Gorman – District Attorney

1/09/01, 5:30 PM, Tuesday Jeff Levkulich

ABANDONED DOG

A disturbing case of animal cruelty tonight. Neighbors say a family moved out of their home but left their dog behind to starve. And after several people placed calls to the humane officials to come and get the dog, the dog is still there, leaving neighbors wondering who is crueler.

Jeff Levkulich joins us live from Bedford.

1:20 – Package

Sam Mickey – Neighbor

Alysia Tozer – Humane Society

1/10/01, 11 PM, Wednesday Julie Sidoni

MAXIMUM RESPONSE

Johnstown city officials say they've had enough. It's time to put a maximum effort into wiping out crime. Julie Sidoni talked with city leaders and joins us now live with more.

1:14 – Package

:32 – Live

Don Zucco – Johnstown mayor

Kathy McQuaid – Mother against violence

1/10/01, 11 PM, Wednesday Jenn Kallin

ROVING THIEVES

A warning tonight to senior citizens in our region. There are roving thieves active again, targeting the elderly.

:55 – SOT/VO

Leora Crumblin – Victim of roving thieves

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: CRIME JANUARY

1/11/01, 5 / 5:30 / 6 PM, Thursday Sherry Stalley

WALK AGAINST VIOLENCE

Hundreds of people have gathered at Johnstown High School to walk to the scene where a teen was shot and killed the day after Christmas.. The walk has a two-fold purpose: first to remember Aaron Coyle and second to offer a show of support for somehow putting an end to the violent crime wave that has rocked the area. Sherry Stalley is at the high school and joins us now with more.

1:00 – Package

:43 – Live

Kathy McQuaid – Friend of the victim

1/11/01, 5 / 6 PM, Thursday Rick Shepard, Lisa Stofko

CRIME WAVE

The recent crime wave has affected a wide variety of businesses in nearly every corner of the community, and has touched many, many lives. More now from Rick Shepard.

1:12 – Package

This is a crime wave that knows no boundaries. And officials in Cambria County recognize that, and today announced a plan to do something about it. As team coverage continues, Lisa Stofko is following the story.

1:13 – Package

:27 - Live

Fred Soisson – Commissioner Chairman

David Tulowitzki – District Attorney

1/11/01, 5:30 PM, Thursday Lisa Stofko

WAR ON CRIME

Putting an end to this surge of violent crime is a top priority for the city of Johnstown. So much so that it's reaching out for help. Lisa Stofko reports.

1:35 – Package

Chief Robert Huntley – Johnstown Police

Trooper Steve Barto – PA State Police

Bob Kolar – Cambria County Sheriff

1/11/01, 5 / 6 PM, Thursday Marty Radovanic

OD SENTENCE

A Blair County man will spend the next few years of his life telling others how heroin caused him to kill his friend.

:56 – SOT/VO

Debbie Fowler – Victim's mother

Dennis Fowler – Victim's father

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: CRIME JANUARY

1/12/01, 6 / 11 PM, Friday Marty Radovanic

FRAT BURGLARIES

Police in State College are investigating a string of recent burglaries at the Penn State campus. Police say thieves are targeting computer and electronic equipment and tell residents they can take steps to prevent these crimes.

:51 - VO

1/15/01, 5 / 6 PM, Monday Jon Meyer

CRIME SPREE / PUBLIC HELP

A team effort is underway tonight to try to put an end to a string of violent crimes in Greater Johnstown. Those familiar with the fight against crime say the only way to win is with the public's help. Jon Meyer has more on this story. He's live now in Ebensburg.

1:13 - Package

:35 - Live

Gary Martin - Crimestoppers

1/16/01, 5 / 6 PM, Tuesday Sherry Stalley

DOG NEGLECT

A unique twist to what's being called the worst animal neglect case in Johnstown. Today the owner of the dogs was found guilty of causing the death of 15 of her animals. Her sentence - mandatory community service at the humane society. That's where Sherry Stalley is following the story. She joins us now live

1:12 - Package

:25 - Live

D. Black - Cambria County Humane Society

Ron Allison - City Dog Law Officer

1/17/01, 5 / 6 PM, Wednesday Jon Meyer

YOUTH VIOLENCE

Today, the United State Attorney General issued a report on the extent of youth violence and its primary causes. Jon Meyer is following this story. He's live in Johnstown with details.

1:15 - Package

:24 - Live

David Satcher - U.S. Surgeon General

Dr. Matt Masiello - Pediatrician

1/18/01, 5 / 6 PM, Thursday Carmen Grant

ALTOONA SPECIAL PATROLS

Police in Altoona and State Troopers are now joining forces to crackdown on the recent rash of robberies at late night businesses. NewsCenter 6's Carmen Grant spoke with some area shop owners to see if the plan has been effective.

1:05 - Package

:22 - Live

Loretta Graham - Employee

Sam Fogle - Store Owner

Chief John Treese - Altoona Police

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: CRIME JANUARY

1/18/01, 6 / 11 PM, Thursday Julie Sidoni, Lisa Stofko

WAR ON CRIME

Members of Johnstown City Council are meeting right now about the maximum response plan in the city's war against crime. Local and State police departments are involved but now the plan is extending to community groups. Julie Sidoni is live in Johnstown with more.

:35 – SOT/VO

Martha Banda – Deputy Mayor

While the council is meeting to ascertain their roll in the plan, the Public Safety Committee is meeting tonight to establish a plan of sharing information with and gathering input from neighborhood groups and housing communities. All this to help police do a better job. Lisa Stofko has more on that story.

1:35 – Package

Ray McAfee – Tenant's Council President

1/19/01, 5:30 / 6 / 11 PM, Friday Carmen Grant

HEROIN BUST

U.S. drug agents take down an international drug ring that smuggled millions of dollars in drugs from South America to the streets of Philadelphia and New York. NewsCenter 6's Carmen Grant has the story of the impact this drug bust has in our area.

1:45 – Package

David Gorman – District Attorney

James Walstrom – Narcotic agent

1/30/01, 5 / 6 / 11 PM, Tuesday Gary Sinderson

CAMPUS CRIME

Crime on college campuses nationwide continues to rise. That's according to new figures released by the Federal Dept. of Education. But campus security experts say there's some confusing numbers involving the use of different standards in reporting crime. Gary Sinderson joins us live to say that crime at the Penn State campus may actually be declining.

1:08 – Package

:31: - Live

Ann Gorby – Penn State student

Julie Hinckley – Penn State student

Tom Harmon – PSU Police Services

1/30/01, 11 PM, Tuesday Miranda Gresko

DEATH PENALTY

The subject of the death penalty is a controversial one spanning from Texas to Pennsylvania. Today, at Penn State, guests had a chance to hear from someone convicted, sentenced to death, and after a long judicial battle, found innocent. Now he's an advocate against the death penalty. Miranda Gresko reports.

1:34 – Package

William Nieves – Pennsylvania

Ernie Preate – Former Atty. General

David Heim – Consumer Reports

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: CRIME JANUARY

1/31/01, 5:30 / 11 PM, Wednesday Jenn Kallin

DORM ARRESTS

Penn State police are again warning students who live in dorms to lock their doors at night. The warning comes in the wake of an arrest of a student charged with barging into dorm rooms at random, rooms he found unlocked. It's a simple solution to a costly problem.

:45 – SOT/VO

Tom Harmon – Police Services

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: CRIME FEBRUARY

2/01/01, 5 / 6 PM, Thursday Miranda Gresko

PRISON SECURITY

Nationwide, there have been two major prison breaks in just over a month. Here in Pennsylvania, the prison system has been undergoing its own set of changes in the wake of a high-profile escape two summers ago. Miranda Gresko has been working the story and joins us live to report on how security has been upgraded in the PA prison system.

1:13 – Package

:24 – Live

Diane Baney – SCIH Public Info

Mandy Peck – Prison neighbor

Susan Williams – Executive Director

2/05/01, 5 / 6 PM, Monday Christie Seibert

DRUG TEST POLICY

After 13 months of negotiations, a new drug and alcohol policy for Johnstown's troubled police force could be coming soon. Christie Seibert is following this story and she joins us now live.

:53 – Package

:27 – Live

Karl Kilduff – Johnstown City Manager

2/08/01, 11 PM, Thursday Sherry Stalley

FUGITIVE SWEEP

With Johnstown now trying to stay ahead of its violent crime spree, a team effort by Johnstown's Police Dept. and the Sheriff's deputies are putting a lot of people behind bars tonight. By getting as many wanted people off the street as possible, it's that much less the city has to worry about. Sherry Stalley joins us live with this unfolding story.

1:11 – Package

:22 – Live

Bob Kolar – Cambria County sheriff

2/09/01, 5:30 PM, Friday Brigitte Langmade

OXYCONTIN

It's been a problem for pharmacies and police in our area for months. Now the effects of oxycontin, a powerful pain killer that's being used illegally, are being felt across the East coast. Brigitte Langmade is standing by live in Washington D.C. with the latest.

1:17 - Package

:24 – Live

Michael Kim - Pharmacist

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: CRIME FEBRUARY

2/12/01, 5:30 PM, Monday Jenn Kallin

DOMESTIC ABUSE

With the number of domestic abuse cases on the rise, new legislation is proposed to provide better protection for abuse victims from out-of-state.

:55 – SOT/VO

Jake Corman – State Senator

Denise Scotland – Coalition Against Violence

2/13/01, 5 / 6 PM, Tuesday Gary Sinderson

RIOT PREVENTION

How do you prevent a riot? That's what State college Borough officials have been working on in recent months after the second riot in three years rocked the downtown last summer. Now, a game plan has been unveiled for possible riot prevention measures. Included are well over 40 proposals. With more on the riot prevention package, Gary Sinderson joins us live.

1:18 – Package

:27 – Live

Tom King – State College Police Chief

Bill Welch – State College Mayor

Peter Marshal – State College Manager

2/14/01, 5 / 6 PM, Wednesday Jon Meyer

DRUG TEST POLICY

It took over a year to develop, but tonight the city of Johnstown and its police union have a drug and alcohol testing policy. This after an officer abusing drugs dragged the police department into a situation that rocked the public's confidence in the entire police force. Jon Meyer joins us live now from downtown Johnstown with the details on the new policy.

1:00 – Package

:23 – Live

Karl Kilduff – City Manager

2/20/01, 11 PM, Tuesday Sherry Stalley

STREET SMARTS

Staying safe is one of the top concerns of women across the nation, and for good reason. Crime numbers show that a woman is two times more likely to be a victim than a man. But you can do something to keep from becoming a statistic. Tonight, Sherry Stalley has some simple ways to be "Street Smart" in this NewsCenter 6 Special Report.

2:25 – Package

Wendy Wilson – Community Education

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: CRIME FEBRUARY

2/22/01, 11 PM, Thursday Sherry Stalley

OXYCONTIN

The drug oxycontin was developed to ease the terrible pain of those who suffer from terminal illnesses. However, there is an evil side-effect of the drug that can turn anyone to a life of crime. In the past two years, nearly one hundred deaths, a dozen in Cambria County, have been blamed on the abuse of oxycontin. There's a new push to keep the prescribed drug in the right hands, and police say they are starting to win in this deadly battle. Sherry Stalley has more in a NewsCenter 6 Special Report.

3:05 – Package

Dave Tulowitzki – District Attorney

Vicki Nolan – Son addicted to oxy

Anonymous – Former Oxycontin Addict

2/27/01, 5 PM, Tuesday Marty Radovanic

HOME INVASION

What right do you have to use deadly force against someone who has broken into your home? A recent case in South Carolina is bringing this issue to light. A woman there stabbed a burglar to death. She is not being prosecuted. In Pennsylvania, police say there is no set rule on what's right or wrong.

:46 – SOT/VO

Det. Tom Keirn – Richland Township Police

2/28/01, 5 / 6 PM, Wednesday Lisa Stofko

JAIL STAY PAYMENT

Doing in time in Bedford County will now cost you in more ways than one. A newly approved charge for inmates for room and board takes effect tomorrow. The idea comes from Sheriff Gordon Diehl who believes it will serve as yet another deterrent to crime and help the county pay the bills. It's a concept that has worked well in Somerset County. Lisa Stofko is following the story and joins us now live with more.

:55 – Package

:22 – Live

Gordon Diehl – Bedford County Sheriff

Dave Thompson – Commissioner Chairman

2/28/01, 5 PM, Wednesday Jenn Kallin

DENTAL / FIGHTING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

The next time you get your teeth checked, your dentist might shock you with some disturbing questions. Experts say the dentist could be the first to spot and stop domestic abuse with the signs staring them in the face.

:46 SOT/VO

Cathleen Silliman – Dentist

CRIME . . . FEBRUARY

RICKI LAKE 2/14/01

Host: Ricki Lake

Ricki brings the harsh reality of the streets into sharp focus with a riveting exploration of teen prostitution. Young men and women explain why they sell their bodies for money. An analysis of their lives shows that their incentive of quick cash may actually cost them their lives.

SHOW # 8123

Syndicator: Columbia Tristar

RICKI LAKE 2/26/01

Host: Ricki Lake

Ricki orchestrates a gang summit to examine the issue of gang violence. Rival gangs come face-to-face in an effort to end the violence. Former gang members, Chicago policemen, and gang leaders speak about the causes that fuel the fights on the streets.

SHOW # 8133

Syndicator: Columbia Tristar

RICKI LAKE 2/28/01

Host: Ricki Lake

Ricki explores the deadly effects of the designer drug ecstasy. Guests include those who continue to use the drug, former users, and medical experts along with family members who had to watch their loved ones die from the effects of the use of ecstasy.

SHOW # 8137

Syndicator: Columbia Tristar

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: CRIME MARCH

3/01/01, 11 PM, Thursday Jenn Kallin

OXYCOTIN MEETING

Law enforcement officials from eight states including Pennsylvania have joined forces to make sure oxycotin stays out of the wrong hands. The drug was the focus of a summit held today in Richmond, Virginia advising police how they can work together with pharmacists to stop those who abuse the painkiller meant for the terminally ill.

:51 – SOT/VO

David Haddox – Purdue PHARMA

3/06/01, 5 / 6 PM, Tuesday Julie Sidoni

OXYCOTIN

In recent months, the once-little known drug oxycotin has become a household word. Addicts have done anything to get it. Pharmacists have struggled with where to store it. Law enforcement officers had to become experts overnight. While they have been advising pharmacists, tonight it was their turn to get a little advice. Julie Sidoni has the story.

1:18 – Package

David Tulowitzki – Cambria County DA

Dr. J. David Haddox – Purdue Pharma

3/08/01, 11 PM, Thursday Miranda Gresko

POLICE STOPS

Their job is to serve and protect but allegations of racial profiling in our region are making people wonder who they can trust. The question is – what are your rights when police stop you? Miranda Gresko reports.

1:32 – Package

Cpl. Mark Argiro – State College Police

3/13/01, 5:30 PM, Tuesday Marty Radovanic

LEFT LANE LAW

Don't be surprised if you get pulled over for traveling in the left lane of the turnpike, even though most motorists don't know it's against the law. Despite that fact, state troopers are hesitant to issue tickets for the offense.

:47 – SOT/VO

Carl Harrison – Turnpike Station Commander

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: CRIME MARCH

3/14/01, 5 / 6 PM, Wednesday Marty Radovanic

OXYCOTIN DATABASE

Law enforcement officials are taking extra steps to prevent the drug oxycotin from ending up in the wrong hands. One way is through a database. Authorities in Virginia are considering creating a system to keep track of oxycotin prescriptions.

:42 – SOT/VO

David Gorman – District Attorney

3/14/01, 5:30 PM, Wednesday Gary Sinderson

RIOT PREVENTION

The Beaver Canyon area of downtown State College has been the scene of two riots in the past three years. Last month borough leaders unveiled forty proposals designed to help prevent that kind of rampaging in the downtown area. Now apartment owners along Beaver Avenue have some ideas of their own to help stop the violence and it involves their balconies. Gary Sinderson joins us with more.

1:15 – Package

:26 – Live

Mick Trombley – The Apartment Store

Leo Delorenzo – A. W. & Sons

Mark Bigatel – Associated Realty

Peter Marshall – State College Manager

James Meyer – State College Council

3/21/01, 11 PM, Wednesday Marty Radovanic

FIREARM VIOLENCE

We hear about the dangers of guns everyday, but a new study points to firearm violence as a problem reaching epidemic proportions among our nation's young. Finding a solution means taking a look at a wide range of causes.

:31 – SOT/VO

Dr. Allison Moll – Violence Prevention

3/27/01, 5:30 PM, Tuesday Marty Radovanic

AGRESSIVE DRIVERS

The State Police are looking hard at aggressive drivers, or those who suffer from bouts of "road rage." And now the police may have a new weapon to help stop those who lose control when they're behind the wheel.

:42 – SOT/VO

Sgt. Carl Harrison – PA State Police

3/29/01, 5:30 PM, Thursday Marty Radovanic

COPS IN SHOPS

After all the work by State College officials proved fruitless in the wake of last weekend's riots, police are ready to crack down on what they feel is the real problem: underage drinking. Starting this weekend, undercover cops will be in bars, bottle shops, and liquor stores throughout the Centre County region.

:38 – SOT/VO

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: EDUCATION JANUARY

1/01/01, 11 PM, Monday Julie Sidoni

HOMEWORK STRESS

In recent years, homework seems to be on an aggressive track. Researchers say added assignments create more family stress and less family time. Some communities are saying enough is enough. Julie Sidoni has the story.

2:14 - Package

:15 - Live

Cheryl Weaver - Parent

Etta Kralovec - The End of Homework

Ronald Bolandi - Piscataway District Superintendent

Harris Cooper - University of Missouri Professor

1/03/01, 5 PM, Wednesday Marty Radovanic

DIGITAL AWARD

A Blair County school is one of six finalists in a competition to become the nation's first digital school district. Education Secretary Eugene Hickok visited Spring Cove Elementary to congratulate students, parents, and teachers as they move education forward in the new millenium.

:56 - SOT/VO

Eugene Hickok - Education Secretary

1/08/01, 5/6 PM, Monday Jen Kallin

RICHLAND TEACHERS

It looks like a labor dispute at a suburban Johnstown school district may finally be over tonight. About an hour ago, teachers in the Richland Area School District voted to ratify their contract.

:35 - VO

1/09/01, 5 / 6 PM, Tuesday Jon Meyer

SALISBURY SCHOOL

The state may force a Somerset County High School to close. A routine investigation of Salibury Elk Lick High School showed it is operating without a required permit. The cost to get one may be more than the school district can afford. Jon Meyers joins us live now with more on this story.

1:12 - Package

:34 - Live

Dr. David Welling - Superintendent

1/10/01, 5:30 PM, Wednesday Jenn Kallin

ALTOONA BUILDING BRIDGES

An area college is bridging the gap between east and west. Today, administrators from Penn State Altoona kicked off a new cultural exchange initiative where 12 students from China will be given the opportunity to enroll in the university's M-B-A program.

:45 - SOT/VO

Wu Feng - English Professor

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: EDUCATION JANUARY

1/10/01, 5 / 6 PM, Wednesday Jenn Kallin

DRY SORORITIES

Penn State's fraternity system is continuing to dry out, the university's sororities are the latest to go alcohol free. The sororities are located in the university dorms where booze is prohibited. But as of the first of the year, even sorority events off campus will have to be alcohol free.

:41 – SOT/VO

David Britz – PSU Interfraternity Council

1/10/01, 5:30 PM, Wednesday Carmen Grant

DRUGS / FINANCIAL AID

A new government policy that denies financial aid to students convicted of a drug offense is igniting protests on some campuses. And as Carmen Grant tells us, some say the policy unfairly targets low income students.

1:30 – Package

Mark Lees – Opposes policy

Danielle Schanrrs – Opposes policy

David Pearlman – Penn State Altoona

Nikisha Hamilton – Opposes policy

Adam Woomer – Supports policy

1/11/01, 5 / 6 PM, Thursday Gary Sinderson

COLLEGE MAKEUP

Across the country, more and more, college campuses are becoming predominantly female. Women students outnumber their male counterparts by a growing margin. It's causing concern nationwide and reflects the growing changes in the workforce, and in our society in general. With more on the gender gap on campus Gary Sinderson joins us live from State College.

1:10 – Package

:19 – Live

Vidaya Swaminathan – Student advisor

Jennifer Broome – Student

1/11/01, 5:30 PM, Thursday Carmen Grant

SCHOOL LUNCHES

High fat foods are no longer on school lunch menus. Health officials say more schools are offering healthy choices for kids. NewsCenter 6's Carmen Grant takes a look.

1:13 – Package

Betty Worley – Food Service Director

Julie Bistline – Student who likes school lunches

Brandon Deamer – Student who likes school lunches

Kert Poltio – Student who prefers home lunches

1/12/01, 11 PM, Friday Marty Radovanic

MOUNT ALOYSIUS COMPUTER PROGRAM

Mount Aloysius College in Cresson has unveiled what it calls a bold step toward answering a critical shortage of computer workers in the nation. The college has created the "Buhl classroom video conferencing center" to offer students a unique distance-learning experience.

:47 – SOT/VO

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: EDUCATION JANUARY

1/16/01, 5 /6 PM, Monday Lisa Stofko

ELECTION EDUCATION

After one of the most hotly contested races in American history, George W. Bush will be sworn in as the nation's 43rd president Saturday. The inauguration caps off for many what was an unforgettable election. For students studying the country's electoral process, it has become a living, learning, civics lesson that teachers are using to show students the relevance of studying history and help them decide what they think of the electoral college. Lisa Stofko is following this story and has more.

1:27 – Package

:28 – Live

James Bowers – Teacher

Lauren Melvin – 10th grade

Elise Melvin – 11th grader

1/16/01, 5 /6 PM, Tuesday Marty Radovanic

MOUSETRAP / PROBLEM SOLVING

We've all heard the expression "How to build a better mousetrap." Today students at a Cambria County high school varied the phrase just a bit and used that mousetrap to build a better car. Problemsolving was behind the challenge of assembling a mousetrap-powered vehicle and demonstrates the way education is helping the problem-solvers of the future.

:59 – SOT/VO

Mike Peruso – Junior

Jess Urbas – Junior

1/17/01, 5 / 6 PM, Wednesday Gary Sinderson

PSU GROWTH

At Penn State, they're trying to balance a record number of applications for admission against on-going concerns about the university getting too large. Many community members say the University Park campus is reaching its capacity in student population. Should the University expand or should administrators take a good look at entrance requirements? With more on Penn State's future, Gary Sinderson joins us live from University Park.

:55 – Package

:18 – Live

Graham Spanier – Penn State President

1/19/01, 5:30 / 11 PM, Friday Keith Hoffer

STARBASE

About two dozen students are blasting off for the first ever Starbase Pennsylvania. It's mission is to get kids excited about science. Keith Hoffer gives us a look at the 5-day "Starbase Pennsylvania" experience and the need for emphasizing science.

1:24 – Package

Angelo Ross – Starbase instructor

Bec Jerz – North Star teacher

Zak Thompson – student

Derek Baer – student

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: EDUCATION JANUARY

1/23/01, 5:30 / 11 PM, Tuesday Allison Burns, Christie Seibert

BUSH EDUCATION PLAN

President Bush is making good on one of his campaign promises. Today he sent a proposal to Congress that, if approved, would give some parents money to send their kids to private schools. NewsCenter 6's Allison Burns has the latest live from Washington.

1:25 – Package

:36 – Live

George W. Bush – President

Se. Evan Bayh – Indiana

As President Bush tried to turn his signature campaign issue into policy, educators in our area are closely watching the process. Christie Seibert talked to some of them today and joins us now live with area reaction.

1:35 – Package

:22 – Live

Bill Padamonsky – Hollidaysburg Superintendant

Charles Koren – Altoona-Johnstown Diocese

1/24/01, 5:30 / 11 PM, Wednesday Lisa Stofko

KINDERGARTEN FULL DAY

It's a growing trend, a full day of kindergarten. The Cambria Heights School board in Northern Cambria County is among those currently considering a full-day curriculum. Districts that already have full-day programs say it's an approach that works. Lisa Stofko has more.

1:30 – Package

Cathy Adams – Pre-Primary Principal

Heidi Saleme – Kindergarten teacher

Brenda Smithmyer – Parent volunteer

1/29/01, 5:30 / 11 PM, Monday Jenn Kallin

MAKING THE GRADE

The Dept. of Education plans to spend 2.5 million dollars to evaluate school performance. The new initiative is one of many the state agency is undertaking to improve test scores.

:50 – SOT/VO

Tom Bradley – Altoona Schools

1/30/01, 5:30 / 11 PM, Tuesday Rick Shepard

SCHOOL VOUCHERS

Will your tax dollars be going towards private education in the future? Or will education reform avoid the hotly debated issue of school vouchers. Rick Shepard has more.

1:52 – Package

Darcy Olsen – CATO Institute

Reg Weaver – National Education Assoc.

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: EDUCATION . . . FEBRUARY

2/01/01, 5:30 / 11 PM, Thursday Carmen Grant

PLAYING WITH FIRE

Throughout the upcoming weeks, area fire fighters will visit schools as part of burn awareness activities. Because many fires are started by children playing with matches, fire fighters believe fire safety education belongs in our schools. Carmen Grant has the story.

1:07 – Package

Reynold Santone – Altoona Fire Chief

Randal Isenberg – Fire Marshall

2/08/01, 5:30 / 11 PM, Thursday Miraanda Gresko

UNFAIR TUITION INCREASE

In the aftermath of Gov. Ridge's budget proposal, Penn State is anticipating another tuition increase in order to meet their bottom line. This will be the 20th year in a row that the university is looking to increase tuition fees. Miranda Gresko has been following this story on the heightening price tag of a college education.

1:02 – Package

:25 – Live

Steve MacCarthy – Penn State spokesman

2/09/01, 5:30 PM, Friday Carmen Grant

GRADE CHECK

A Blair County school district has found a new use for technology in the classroom. A program called Parent-Link is designed to keep parents better informed of their kids progress. Now parents can get their kid's grades with just the click of the mouse.

1:21 – Package

Darlene Carter – Parent

Rodney Kuhns – Superintendent

Paula Carlson – Bellwood Antis teacher

2/12/01, 5:00 PM, Monday Christie Seibert

CAMBRIA ROWE

A business college in Cambria County may be one of the area's best bets for getting a job. In a region where jobs are sometimes hard to come by, Cambria Rowe Business College has a 100 per cent placement rate for the year 2000. That's a feat that has brought them some national recognition. Christie Seibert has the story.

1:42 – Package

Mike Artim – Director Cambria Rowe

Heather Hohman – Student

Melissa Barnette – Student

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: EDUCATION . . . FEBRUARY

2/13/01, 5:30 PM, Tuesday Rick Shepard

GUN SAFETY

Of all the lessons kids learn in school, learning about the dangers of guns may be the most important of all. Students at Cambria Heights Elementary School heard that message loud and clear this morning. Rick Shepard has more.

1:30 – Package

Benjamin Cence – Fifth grade

Vincent Yeager – Sixth grade

Johnny Serafin – Fourth grade

Eddie Eagle – Frank Burski

Sara Williamson – Fifth grade

2/13/01, 5:30 / 11 PM, Tuesday Lisa Stofko

SCHOOL ATTENDENCE

Colds, flu, stomach viruses, they can spread like wildfire when you get a lot of people in an enclosed area for hours at a time. In fact, some area schools are just now recovering from a bout with the flu bug. It bit a little harder this year than usual and has sparked a debate on whether to send children to school if they are feeling a little under the weather. Lisa Stofko has more.

1:30 – Package

Jeannie Sheeler – Tracks attendance

Dave Koba – Principal

2/14/01, 5:30 / 11 PM, Wednesday Lisa Stofko

TEACHER INCENTIVES

A Cambria County school district is one of only four in Pennsylvania to receive a special grant that offers teachers cash incentive to improve how they do their jobs. As Lisa Stofko reports, it's a different approach and a controversial one, but one administrators believe students will benefit most from.

1:51 – Package

Patti Hicks - Kindergarten teacher

Dr. Susan Makosy – Assistant Superintendent

2/15/01, 5 / 6 PM, Thursday Gary Sinderson

HARASSMENT POLICY

A legal setback against a local school district could have far-reaching implications nationwide. A federal court rules against the State College school district's anti-harassment policy. The court says the bigger issue at stake is free speech. With more on the court decision and what it could mean for school students across the country is Gary Sinderson.

1:14 – Package

:24 – Live

David Warren Saxe – Filed legal suit

Robert Richards – PSU Prof. Of Communications

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: EDUCATION FEBRUARY

2/23/01, 5:00 / 6 PM, Friday Gary Sinderson

ZERO TOLERANCE

Tragedies and violence in schools across the country have now added a new term to the curriculum – zero tolerance. It's the term used by school districts clamping down and threatening a day in court for those who cause trouble or bring weapons to school. As Gary Sinderson tells us, simple items that may have been used everyday in classrooms may get you into trouble if you try to take them to school now, leaving parents wondering if school boards are going a little too far.

3:12 – Package

Tom Bradley – Altoona School District

Tom Young – Centre County Probation

Robert Noel – State College Police Dept.

Craig Butler – State College Principal

2/26/01, 11 PM, Monday Christie Seibert

LEARNING TO LEARN

If you're a parent, you know that it is sometimes a struggle to get your kids to sit down and do their homework. If they aren't performing well on tests, that homework time becomes even more important. But what if your kids aren't studying the right way for them? Christie Seibert tells us that there are several learning styles and the key to academic success may be figuring out how your child learns best.

2:27 – Package

Daniel Smith – Fifth Grade

June Bracken – Educational Specialist

Kim Arnold – Fifth Grade Teacher

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: EDUCATION . . . MARCH

3/02/01, 5:30 / 11 PM, Friday Lisa Stofko

HUNT FOR SUBS

School administrators in our area and around the nation are dealing with a tough problem; finding enough substitute teachers. Education officials say the problem is new laws about class size and the booming economy that has diverted some teachers to other fields.

:47 – SOT/VO

Gerald Zahorchak – Superintendent

3/02/01, 6 PM, Friday Miranda Gresko

SUB SHORTAGE

Like the Johnstown School District, there are districts in central Pennsylvania that have found ways to make sure they have enough substitutes to handle classes. School districts nationwide are looking for solutions. Miranda Gresko reports on the strategy of one Centre County District.

1:26 – Package

Dr. Patricia Best – Superintendent

3/05/01, 11 PM, Monday Jenn Kallin

SCHOOL BULLIES

The suspect in this latest school shooting was reportedly the victim of teasing. Classmates say he was picked on for being scrawny and little. This bullying isn't just kids being kids. The intimidation, ridicule, and harassment can lead to the violence that shocks a community as students shoot their classmates.

2:30 – Package

Dr. Matt Masiello – Conemaugh pediatrician

Kurt Davis – Johnstown High School teacher

3/06/01, 5:30 PM, Tuesday Gary Sinderson

SCHOOL VIOLENCE

Monday's deadly school shooting in California again raises questions about the security of our schools. Nationwide, the number of violent incidents in schools has dropped but all it takes is one tragic episode to spark increased fears about school safety. School officials say it's a fine line in trying to provide what is deemed the right amount of security. Gary Sinderson joins us live with more.

1:27 – Package

:22 – Live

Tom Bradley – Altoona School District

Tom Young – Centre County Probation Dept.

Carol Waltz – Counselor

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: EDUCATION MARCH

3/07/01, 5 / 6 / 11 PM, Wednesday Julie Sidoni

ZERO TOLERANCE AREA POLICY

Violence in schools across the country has lead some districts to add a new term to the curriculum – zero tolerance. Even school districts close to home are clamping down. Julie Sidoni took a look at some of those policies and joins us now live to explain why school districts think this is the right way to deal with the potential threat.

:39 – Package

:40 – Live

Tom Bradley – Altoona School District

3/07/01, 5 / 6 PM, Wednesday Jenn Kallin

ANTI-BULLY PROGRAM

Two Johnstown area school districts hope an anti-bullying program will help in eliminating the potential for violence. The program has been successful in other districts across the country, resulting in as much as a 50 percent reduction in bullying incidents.

:40 – VO/SOT

Diana Schroeder – Program coordinator

3/08/01, 5 / 6 PM, Thursday Lisa Stofko

CONFLICT RESOLUTION

Conflict, be it among classmates or workers, is natural. Experts say it is how people choose to handle that conflict that becomes the main issue. The Greater Johnstown School District has a program that it calls pro-social development that has so far proved successful. Lisa Stofko is working this story and joins us now live with more.

1:14 – Package

:18 – Live

Marcus Howling – Peer mediator

Curt Davis – Student Assistant Program

3/09/01, 5 / 6 / 11 PM, Friday Julie Sidoni

SCHOOL SURVEILLANCE

In the wake of school violence that's plagued the nation, school districts are forced to find more sophisticated ways to keep their students safe. But how far are they going and is it working? Julie Sidoni has the story.

1:07 – Package

Tom Bradley – Altoona School District

Aaron Waddell Senior

Lindsay Francis – Senior

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: EDUCATION MARCH

3/13/01, 5:30 / 11 PM, Tuesday Gary Sinderson

SAFER SCHOOL BUILDINGS

Building safer and more secure schools has become a priority in this day and age. While they don't want to become like prisons, many schools today are either being retro-fitted or designed with added security measures in mind. Gary Sinderson joins us live from State College where administrators and staff are in the midst of assessing the district's facilities.

:56 – Package

:23 – Live

Sen. Rick Santorum – Pennsylvania

Dr. Patricia Best – State College superintendent

3/13/01, 5:30 / 11 PM, Tuesday Jenn Kallin

SECURITY DRILLS

How well-trained are students today in the event of a security crisis? In many schools, at least once a year, drills are being held strictly for that purpose, extensive drills to cover a wide range of emergencies. Administrators are reluctant however to make the information on emergency plans available to parents, citing security concerns.

:38 – SOT/VO

Tom Bradley – Altoona School District

3/16/01, 5 PM, Friday Jenn Kallin

MILK VENDING

The milk industry has a new campaign. They're moving from billboards to blackboards. They want milk to be the drink of choice in schools nationwide. Some health experts say there is a major calcium deficiency among school children of all ages and the soft drinks in school vending machines aren't helping.

:35 – SOT/VO

Dr. Laura Tosi – Orthopedic surgeon

3/19/01, 5:30 / 11 PM, Monday Carmen Grant

TEEN VIOLENCE HOT LINE

In the wake of recent school shootings, administrators and law enforcement officials are teaming up to prevent a tragedy from happening in our schools. NewsCenter 6's Carmen Grant takes a look at yet another measure intended to prevent school violence.

1:30 – Package

Mahon Fiscel – Family Services

David Gorman – District Attorney

Kim Moore – Family Services

Paul Gallagher – Hollidaysburg

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: EDUCATION MARCH

3/22/01, 5:30 / 11 PM, Thursday Jenn Kallin

FREE TUITION

There's a new incentive underway by the State Department of Education to keep high-achieving community college students in the Keystone state after they graduate.

1:23 – SOT/VO

Cathie Stahl / Human services major

Kathleen Sabo – Health care management major

3/23/01, 6 PM, Friday Jon Meyer

SCHOOL VIOLENCE

After recent violence in schools across the country, school administrators are dealing with what many call the post-Columbine years. Now all threats at schools are taken seriously, even the ones students may say as a joke. Jon Meyer is live now with more on this story.

:53 – Package

:16 – Live

Dr. Russell Strange – Superintendent

3/26/01, 5:30 / 11 PM, Monday Roseanne Colletti

COLLEGE APPLICATIONS

It's the time of year when high school seniors search the mailbox looking for a college acceptance letter. It can be a stressful time to say the least. But Roseanne Colletti has some tips on how to make your college applications stand out.

2:18 – Package

3/28/01, 11 PM, Wednesday Julie Sidoni

COLLEGE SAFETY

We have been hearing a lot about violence on the high school level lately, but we don't hear near as much about violence on college campuses. Tonight, experts weigh in on what the differences are and why. Is it possible we can learn something valuable from the comparisons that will help us address high school violence? Julie Sidoni is working this story and is standing by live with more.

1:11 – Package

:25 – Live

Kevin Grady – UPJ Police

Grant Croyle, Phd. – Psychologist

3/29/01, 11 PM, Thursday Marty Radovanic

SCHOOL VIOLENCE / BULLIES

Increased media attention on violence and threats of violence in schools had administrators looking for solutions to the problem. A big issue is dealing with bullies and cliques. Both have been around for years, but experts say they're much more of a concern now.

:43 – SOT/VO

Dr. Matt Masiello – Pediatrician

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: HEALTH / MENTAL HEALTH / DRUGS / ALCOHOL JANUARY

1/02/01, 5 PM, Tuesday Marty Radovanic

OXYCONTIN ABUSE

Oxycontin is a prescription painkiller that has also become a popular substitute for heroin. Dianne Jones, the President of the Cambria, Somerset, and Bedford Pharmacists Society is here to tell us about the addictive power of this drug.

1:38 - Live

1/02/01, 5 PM, TUESDAY Marty Radovanic

FLU SHOTS

Could a flu shot help prevent a heart attack in some people? According to a new study, cardiologists are encouraged by some surprising new research.

:45 - SOT/VO

Dr. Zyril Nathaniel - Memorial Medical Center

1/02/01, 5 PM, Tuesday Marty Radovanic

ADHD HEALTH

Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder is one of the more common and controversial disorders of childhood. Now a new study in the Journal of the American Medical Association finds children with A-D-H-D are more prone to accidents and other medical problems.

1:03 - SOT/VO

William Barbaresi - Mayo Clinic

1/02/01, 5 PM, Tuesday Dr. Mike Rosen

LIGHT THERAPY FOR CHRONIC PAIN

There is a new movement in the field of medicine to address the problem of pain, particularly the debilitating effects of chronic pain. Dr. Mike Rosen has the facts on a new treatment that may make a difference for millions of Americans, light therapy.

4:11 - Package

Melinda Miles - Patient's mother

Kacey Miles - Pain patient

Dr. Constance Haber - Therapy inventor

Dr. Harry Pollett - Internist

1/03/01, 5 / 6 PM, Wednesday Christie Seibert

OXY DRUG PROBLEMS

In the past few months, oxycontin's rapidly turned into a drug of choice among users . . and dealers. The prescription pain killer is blamed for many crimes across the region. Doctors say users get an intense high, which is also extremely addictive. Christie Seibert is live in Johnstown with more.

1:06 - Package

:41 - Live

Mark Spaid - Conemaugh Health System

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: HEALTH / MENTAL HEALTH / DRUGS / ALCOHOL JANUARY

1/03/01, 5 PM, Wednesday Marty Radovanic

HEARTBURN ALLERGY

You may associate indigestion with stress or spicy food . . but a new study says some people's indigestion may be caused by allergies.

:52 - SOT/VO

Jeffrey Hyams - GI Specialist

1/03/01, 5 PM, Wednesday Marty Radovanic

PAINFUL MEMORY

For eight years, Glenda Eldred has hurt all over. Doctors couldn't say why until a rheumatologist diagnosed fibro-myalgia. But putting a name to it didn't help.

1:05 - SOT/VO

Dr. Roland Staud - Rheumatologist

Glenda Eldred - Fibromyalgia patient

1/03/01, 5 PM, Wednesday Jon Meyer

STRESS & ILLNESS

In today's world, people are constantly stressed out. And now doctors say dealing with so much stress can actually make you sick. Jon Meyer has more.

:51 - Package

Dr. Sandra Fryhofer - Registered Dietician

1/03/01, 11 PM, Wednesday Miranda Gresko

PAIN MANAGEMENT

For most of us, pain is at most a nuisance. But as Miranda Gresko tells us, new standards are helping doctors treat their patient's pain like never before.

3:37 - Package

June Dahl - AACPI President

Paul Schyve - JCAHO Vice-President

Gail Miller - Centre Community Hospital

Susan Shinagawa - Cancer Patient

1/04/01, 5 PM, Thursday Dr. Leigh Stand

CRANIOTOMIES

On Tonight's episode of E.R., Dr. Greene will undergo a cutting edge medical procedure, called an awake craniotomy to remove a deadly brain tumor. As Dr. Leigh reports, having awake brain surgery may be the safest way to remove some brain tumors.

1:33 - Package

Mohammad Mustafawi - Brain tumor patient

Dr. Olivi - Neurosurgeon

***WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: HEALTH / MENTAL HEALTH / DRUGS /
ALCOHOL JANUARY***

1/05/01, 5 PM, Friday Marty Radovanic

NEW SURGERY

Back pain, for some it can be a serious problem, but now doctors at Altoona hospital are helping to relieve some of that pain with a new surgical procedure.

:42 - SOT/VO

Merle Apple - patient

1/05/01, 5 PM, Friday Marty Radovanic

SECTION / ASTHMA

More than 15percent of American newborns are delivered by C-sections each year. According to a recent issue of the journal "Asthma" researchers have found a link between c-section babies and children who develop asthma.

:55 - SOT/VO

DR. Elizabeth Orwick - OB -GYN

1/05/01, 5 PM, Friday Dr. Mike Rosen

STAPH INFECTIONS

An important new study shows evidence that many life-threatening infections thought to be picked up in the hospital are brought in by patients themselves. Dr. Mike Rosen explains how these findings could eliminate some disease.

1:43 - Package

Cheryl Herbert - Infection control

1/08/01, 5 / 6 PM, Monday Jen Kallin

ALTOONA DRUG WORKSHOP

With the recent increase of drug activity in our area, counselors urge parents to know the signs and symptoms of drug abuse in their children.

:55 - SOT/VO

Stacy Kimble - Drug Counselor

1/08/01, 11 PM, Monday Chris Clackum

DIABETES DEMENTIA

Diabetics and people with high blood pressure have one more thing to worry about . . losing mental ability as they grow older. Chris Clackum has more on a new study that says there may be a link between diabetes, hypertension, and maintaining a sharp mind later in life.

1:36 - Package

Dr. David Knopman - Mayo Clinic Neurologist

1/09/01, 5:30 PM, Tuesday Rick Shepard

SLEEPING PILLS

With the stress of every day life, many of us experience insomnia from time to time. And if you can't fall asleep on your own, there are plenty of drugs on the market to help. But Rick Shepard reports, they could harm you more than help you.

:56 - Package

Dr. Sandra Fryhoffer - Internal Medecine

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: HEALTH / MENTAL HEALTH / DRUGS / ALCOHOL JANUARY

1/09/01, 5 / 6 PM, Tuesday Jenn Kallin, Lisa Stofko

NURSING SHORTAGE

There is a critical shortage of nurses nationwide, a shortage that's being felt right here in West Central Pennsylvania.

:55 – SOT/VO

Claudia Rager – V.P. Patient Service Conemaugh Health System

The shortage of registered nurses now is a far cry from the over abundance of RN's that saturated the market in the mid 90's. What is causing this shortage? Lisa Stofko is following this story and joins us live now with more.

1:15 – Package

:25 – Live

Louise Pugliese – Director of School of Nursing Conemaugh

Susan Garvey – Nursing Student

Jodie Siembak – Nursing Student

1/09/01, 5:30 PM, Tuesday Jenn Kallin

DIET BOOK

If weight loss is one of your New Year's resolutions, an award-winning diet may just be what the doctor ordered.

:51 – SOT/VO

Prof. Barbara Rolls – Volumetrics author and Penn State Nutritionist

1/10/01, 5 / 6 PM, Wednesday Lisa Stofko

JOHNSTOWN PATIENT OVERLOAD

Sprains . . . Chest pain . . . Pneumonia . . . Gastro-intestinal problems. You name it – area hospitals are seeing more of it. While some hospitals like Altoona report a typical January thus far, others in Johnstown say the past few weeks have been crazy. Lisa Stofko is following this story and joins us live with more.

1:09 – Package

:25 - Live

Dr. Sandy Ergas – UPMC E.R. physician

Dr. Daniel Wehner – Memorial Chairman E.R.

1/10/01, 5 / 6 PM, Wednesday Jenn Kallin

PALSY IMPLANT

Doctors in Utah are testing out an implant they hope will return controlled movement to the arms and legs of children with cerebral palsy. The hockey-puck-sized pump automatically injects a new medication directly into patient's spinal fluid.

1:03 – SOT/VO

Tyler Kane – Cerebral palsy victim

Matt Kane – Father of cerebral palsy patient

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: HEALTH / MENTAL HEALTH / DRUGS / ALCOHOL JANUARY

1/10/01, 5 / 6 PM, Wednesday Eric Maccinnes

MEDICAL MARIJUANA

Today is the first day people in Hawaii can start growing marijuana to use for medical purposes. It's a controversy that is not limited to the United States. In Britain, a former police officer is making headlines because she is using marijuana to ease the pain of multiple sclerosis. Eric Macinnes reports.

1:17 – Package

Kate Bradley – MS patient

1/11/01, 5 PM, Thursday Jenn Kallin

HORMONE HEARTS

A new study shows there's a connection between hormone replacement therapy and a woman's risk of heart disease. That makes a woman's decision about whether to take hormones after menopause one of her most important health decisions.

1:01 – SOT/VO

Trudy Bush – Epidemiology Professor

1/11/01, 11 PM, Thursday Marty Radovanic

ASTHMA MEDICINE

Asthma sufferers rely on rescue medication to breathe easier. But researchers have found that an additive used in one key drug may actually delay recovery from an asthma attack.

:50 – SOT/VO

Michael Asmus – Asthma Researcher

1/12/01, 5 / 6 PM, Friday Jenn Kallin

FERTILITY BUSTERS

Couples trying to get pregnant may want to give up caffeine and stress. New fertility studies show that getting pregnant sometimes comes down to "choices" over anatomy.

:57 – SOT/VO

Dr. Steven Brody – Advance Fertility Institute

1/12/01, 5:30 / 6 PM, Friday Carmen Grant

BON SECOURS / ALTOONA FLU

A hospital in Altoona is seeing an increase in the number of flu cases this year. And as NewsCenter 6's Carmen Grant tells us, the influx may be due to the delay in flu shots.

1:05 – Package

Rushmikant Pandit - Physician

Wafa Rizk – Emergency Room Doctor

**WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: HEALTH / MENTAL HEALTH / DRUGS /
ALCOHOL JANUARY**

1/12/01, 5:30 / 6 PM, Friday Brooke Hart

AMBULANCE/CROWDED ER's

It's a growing problem at hospitals across the country: crowded emergency rooms. Ambulances end up looking for an open door and an empty bed for the sick. It's important to note that no one in critical condition can be turned away from an E-R. But with fewer E-R's to treat patients, and soaring demand, what could this mean for your next emergency? Brooke Hart has more from Washington.

1:31 – Package

Don Barklage – Fairfax VA Battalion Chief

Dr. Mark Smith – Washington Hospital Medical Center

Roy Ryals – Phoenix Metro Fire Dept

1/12/01, 5:30 / 6 PM, Friday Alison Burns

GULF WAR ILLNESS

As President Clinton leaves office, his top Defense officials say they still have few answers about the possible causes of the so-called Gulf War Syndrome. The Dept. of Defense issues its final report on the illness today. Alison Burns is live in our Washington D.C. bureau with more.

1:28 – Package

:35 – Live

Dr. Bernard Rostiker – Dept. of Defense

Dr. Ross Anthony – RAND

Joy Ilem – Disabled American Veterans

1/12/01, 11 PM, Friday Miranda Gresko

TOBACCO ILLNESS PREVENTION

Two years after receiving a lofty settlement from the tobacco industry, Pennsylvania is still spending no money on the prevention of tobacco-induced illnesses. It is especially alarming to public health groups who say prevention is the key to saving lives. Miranda Gresko has more.

1:28 – Package

Destiny Myers – American Lung Assoc.

Robert Zimmerman – PA Secretary of Health

1/15/01, 5 /6 PM, Monday Jenn Kallin

DENTAL DETECTIVES

If it's been a while since you last saw your dentist, be warned. Cavities and gum disease aren't the only dangers possibly hiding in your mouth. Those lumps and bumps could harbor oral cancer.

:49 – SOT/VO

Mark Berdahl – D.D.S. / Dentist

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: HEALTH / MENTAL HEALTH / DRUGS / ALCOHOL JANUARY

1/12/01, 11 PM, Friday Dr. Max Gomez

BACK PAIN

It's described as a flare of pain that starts in the lower back and races up and down the spine. But now there's hope for patients who experience this excruciating pain day in and day out. Dr. Max Gomez has details on a new and improved way of giving injections for long term, maybe even permanent relief.

2:25 – Package

Arlene Stein – Back pain patient

Sarah Medress – Back pain patient

Dr. Vijay Vad – Back specialist

1/15/01, 5 /6 PM, Monday Jenn Kallin

PAIN STANDARDS

New standards are going into effect regulating how hospitals handle a patient's pain. The Joint Commission on Accreditation of Health Care has set up 16 new standards for regulating pain management.

:59 – SOT/VO

Ron Jacobus – VP Nursing / Geisinger Hospital

1/15/01, 5:30 PM, Monday Jeff Levkulich

MEDICAL CENTER

People living in one Bedford County community won't have far to travel to get their medical needs met. Windber Medical Center is expanding service at its Alum Bank Center. Jeff Levkulich joins us live.

1:09 – Package

Dr. Craig Fockler – Medical Director

1/15/01, 5 /6 PM, Monday Rick Shepard

FLYING / EAR INFECTIONS

Travelling can be stressful on your immune system. But if you're already sick, it can be downright dangerous. Rick Shepard looks at the effects of traveling when you have a cold.

:49 – Package

Dr. Sanda Fryhofer – Internal Medicine

1/16/01, 11 PM, Tuesday Chris Clackum

VITAMIN OVERDOSES

New rules are out tonight warning people about the dangers of overdoing vitamins. This could have a profound effect on a multibillion dollar industry because nearly half of all Americans take nutritional supplements. Chris Clakum has more.

1:18 – Package

Dr. Victor Herbert – Nutrition expert

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: HEALTH / MENTAL HEALTH / DRUGS / ALCOHOL JANUARY

1/16/01, 5 /6 PM, Tuesday Gary Sinderson

LEGIONNAIRES DISEASE

Students at one Centre County school are being tested for Legionnaire's Disease after a teacher at the school has been diagnosed with the sometimes deadly disease. Now school and health officials are taking precautions. With more on the Legionnaires scare is Gary Sinderson, live from Centre County.

:40 – Package

:35 – Live

Rose Sweeney – Java Jive Café

1/17/01, 5 / 6 PM, Wednesday Jenn Kallin

SHINGLES GEL

The scaly, itchy blisters of chicken pox are almost a rite of childhood. But they can rear their ugly head again later in life in the form of shingles. And for people who get them, it means suffering from terrible pain. Now researchers are testing a new gel that could stop the pain.

:45 – SOT/VO

Beth Safirstein – Neurologist

1/17/01, 11 PM, Wednesday Janet Wu

GROWING ORGANS

Over 70-thousand people in this country are waiting for vital organs. But many will die before they receive them. This problem has doctors rushing to find a solution. Their answer? Growing organs from scratch. Janet Wu has more.

2:43 – Package

Jim Tobin – Organ recipient

Dr. Anthony Atala – Children's Hospital

Dr. Roger DeFillipo – Children's Hospital

Dr. Jay Vancanti – Massachusetts General Hospital

1/18/01, 5 /6 PM, Thursday Jenn Kallin

WINTER SUNSCREEN

More and more of us in recent years have become aware of the need to use sunscreen to help protect us from the sun's rays. Sunscreen use has been largely confined to Spring and Summer and dips dramatically in the Fall and Winter. But not using sunscreen year-round could spell trouble.

1:05 – SOT/VO

Dr. James Leyden – Dermatologist

1/18/01, 5:30 / 11 PM, Thursday Chuck Henry

SODA CANS FILTH

Canned drinks, they're quick and convenient. But before you take that next drink, think about this. You could be putting a potential menace into your body. Chuck Henry explains.

2:28 – Package

***WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: HEALTH / MENTAL HEALTH / DRUGS /
ALCOHOL JANUARY***

1/18/01, 11 PM, Thursday Dr. Leigh Vinocur

ADDICTION DRUG

It's estimated that more than 10-million people are dependent on drugs or alcohol. But now an old medication could have a new use in the treatment of addiction. Dr. Leigh Vinocur reports.

1:20 – Package

Harold Givens – Chemical-Dependent patient

Dr. Donald Jasinski – Center for Chemical Dependency

1/18/01, 11 PM, Thursday Jenn Kallin

DIABETES VACCINE

Those who suffer from type I diabetes have reason to celebrate. Today scientists have begun a series of studies that could one day produce a vaccine against the potential killer.

:58 – SOT/VO

Dr. Eisenbarth / University of Colorado

1/19/01, 5 / 6 PM, Friday Jenn Kallin

COLD SORES

It's estimated that about 1 in 5 Americans get at least one cold-sore a year. But now there's a new treatment for people suffering from cold sores.

:49 – SOT/VO

Stephen Sacks, MD – Antiviral Expert

1/19/01, 5 / 6 PM, Friday Jenn Kallin

BRITTLE BONES

It's estimated that osteoporosis costs the U.S. 15 to 40 billion dollars a year to treat the fractures, pain, and disability it causes. Now, there's a new treatment for one of the most painful complications.

:48 – SOT/VO

Dr. Allan Brook – Montefiore Medical Center

1/19/01, 11 PM, Friday Anna Holoman

ARTHRITIS

It's a debilitating disease, one that can cripple you for life. It's victims are young and the destruction lasts a lifetime. That is, until now. In part I of a special report, Anna Holoman shows us a drug that's offering thousands arthritis relief.

1:46 – Package

Joyce Elmore – Rheumatoid Arthritis sufferer

Jeff Alloway – Rheumatologist

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: HEALTH / MENTAL HEALTH / DRUGS / ALCOHOL JANUARY

1/15/01, 11 PM, Monday Doreen Gentzler

RITALIN

Attention Deficit Disorder was practically unknown a few decades ago, but today nearly 4 million American school children are diagnosed with it. Half of them are taking prescription drugs to control their condition. But what happens when these kids grow up? Doreen Gentzler has details.

2:55 – Package

Mary Ellen Bailor – College student

Leslie Walker – Physician

1/20/01, 11 PM, Friday Anna Holoman

ARTHRITIS

Last night in part 1 of a special report on rheumatoid arthritis, we introduced you to a woman who has the debilitating disease. Tonight, Anna Holoman shows us how that woman has gotten relief and improved the quality of her life.

1:51 – Package

Joyce Elmore – Arthritis patient

Dr. Jeff Alloway – Rheumatologist

Ruthie Baker – Rheumatology nurse

1/22/01, 5 / 6 PM, Monday Jenn Kallin

SURGERY IN DOC'S OFFICE

About 35 million Americans undergo surgery every year. A growing number of those procedures are done, not in the hospital, but right in your doctor's office. While usually less expensive, people should be careful before they decide to forgo the hospital.

1:00 – SOT/VO

Dr. Fred Ernst – Anesthesiologist

1/22/01, 5 / 6 PM, Monday Sherry Rauh

IRON DEFICIENCY

Exhaustion after exercise could be one symptom of an iron deficiency. The deficiency doesn't affect red blood cells but it can lead to extreme fatigue. Sherry Rauh has more on the treatment of this common problem.

:53 – Package

Robin Vitetta Miller – HealthMagazing

1/22/01, 11 PM, Monday Molly Henneberg

DRUG LABELS

How much do you know about the medicine you take, and what it does to your body? It's estimated that 2 million Americans are hospitalized each year with side effects from prescription drugs. Now the F-D-A is overhauling warning labels on medications.

Molly Henneberg has details.

1:50 – Package

Robert Ball – Experience bad side effects

Joan Ball – Wife

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: HEALTH / MENTAL HEALTH / DRUGS / ALCOHOL JANUARY

1/23/01, 5 /6 PM, Tuesday Jenn Kallin

BREASTFEEDING

Breastfed infants have a significantly reduced risk of developing digestive system infections and skin rashes. That's the conclusion of one of the most extensive breastfeeding studies ever done.

:59 – SOT/VO

Michael Kramer M.D. – McGill University Fac. Of Medicine

1/23/01, 5:30 / 6 PM, Tuesday Jenn Kallin

ROSEN ON LEGIONNAIRES

Many people in the region of Centre Hall are on edge after a case of legionnaires disease came to light. A teacher in that school district was treated for the disease > But what is legionnaires and how do you know if you have it? To answer these questions and many more, we're joined by NewsCenter 6's Dr. Mike Rosen.

2:09 – Live

1/23/01, 11 PM, Tuesday Brigitte Langmade

PEER PRESSURE / ADDICTIONS

A new study by the National Institutes of Health reveals how your teenager is influenced by peer pressure and what may lead them to start smoking or drinking as early as sixth grade. Brigitte Langmade has more from our Washington Bureau.

2:10 – Package

Kyle Lierman – 14 year old student

Martha Marrazza – 13 year old student

Andrew Won – 13 year old student

Dr. Simons – National Institutes of Health

Dr. Michael Doran – Middle School Principal

1/23/01, 11 PM, Tuesday Dr. Kevin Soden

BREAST CANCER BATTLE

There's good news in the war against breast cancer. A new drug just approved by the F-D-A is showing promise. Doctor Kevin Soden has the details in Part one of a NewsCenter 6 special health report.

1:51 – Package

Matthew Ellis MD – Duke Cancer Program

1/24/01, 5 / 6 PM, Wednesday Dr. Mike Rosen

HEART DRUGS

New research shows that medicine can reduce the risk of death following a heart attack, but not every patient's receiving the life saving drugs. NewsCenter 6 medical reported Dr. Mike Rosen has more.

1:53 – Package

Tony Farrah MD – Cardiologist

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: HEALTH / MENTAL HEALTH / DRUGS / ALCOHOL JANUARY

1/24/01, 11 PM, Wednesday Alison Burns

FOOD BORNE ILLNESS

There's a new warning tonight from the federal government about deadly strains of bacteria and other pathogens in the foods we eat. Alison Burns has more from our Washington D.C. bureau.

1:56 – Package

Joseph Levitt – Food & Drug Administration

Dr. J. Edward Hill – American Medical Assoc.

Melanie Miller – Partnership for Food Safety

1/25/01, 5 PM, Thursday Jenn Kallin

DENTAL LASER

Tonight, there's some encouraging news for dental patients. There is a new pain-free method that can diagnose decay. And it does it with no x-rays, or needles.

1:00 – SOT/VO

Les Latner – Dentist

1/25/01, 5 PM, Thursday Jenn Kallin

CAM PILL

Some high-tech help for doctors and patients – it's a camera that can go where no camera's gone before, and it's as easy as swallowing a pill.

:56 – SOT/VO

Dr. Blair Lewis – Mount Sinai School of Medicine

1/25/01, 5 PM, Thursday Dr. Kevin Soden

VIAGRA

There's good news today for men who suffer from both high blood pressure and erectile dysfunction. A new study shows that drugs commonly used to treat both conditions can be used together safely. Dr. Kevin Soden has more.

1:25 – Package

Dr. Robert Kloner – Author

1/25/01, 11 PM, Thursday Dr. Leigh Vinocur

SENIOR COVERAGE

As of January, more than a million seniors have been dropped from their medicare H-M-O's. Dr. Leigh Vinocur has more on one woman's problems.

1:30 – Package

Maxine Vogt – Lost Prescription Benefits

Dr. Jonathan Wiener – John Hopkins

1/26/01, 11 PM, Friday Dr. Kevin Soden

BREAST CANCER

Clinical trials for a new drug to treat breast cancer patients are underway. So far, the research shows promise. Dr. Kevin Soden has more in Part 2 of a NewsCenter 6 special report: Fighting Breast Cancer

1:20 – Package

Dr. C. Kent Osborne – Baylor College of Medicine

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: HEALTH / MENTAL HEALTH / DRUGS / ALCOHOL JANUARY

1/29/01, 5:30 / 11 PM, Monday Lucky Severson

HAPPY SPORTS FANS

If you got swept up in Superbowl hype, you may have done something good for your mental health. Lucky Severson tells us how cheering for your favorite team can raise your spirits.

1:38 – Package

Tony Theodore – Avid Sports Fan

Nancy Haller – Psychologist

1/29/01, 5:30 / 11 PM, Monday Dr. Mike Rosen

RADIATION HEART

There's a brand new way to treat patients who have blockages in their heart arteries. It involves radiation in the vessels. Dr. Mike Rosen reports that the new treatment prevents reclosure of an artery.

1:30 – Package

Ed Mark Bocian – Heart Attack Patient

Dr. Tony Farah – Cardiologist

1/30/01, 5:30 / 11 PM, Tuesday Carmen Grant

TEEN SMOKING

More than 23 – thousand Pennsylvanians each year die of smoke-related illnesses. In an effort to increase public awareness, anti-tobacco advocates have called on area businesses to take down cigarette billboards and other ads promoting smoking. Carmen Grant has more.

1:34 – Package

Tom Mesco – American Cancer Society

Deidre Weaver – American Cancer Society

1/31/01, 11 PM, Wednesday Lisa Stofko

BREASTFEEDING CHOICE

A new study, one of the most extensive to date, reinforces the health benefits of breastfeeding. With this news, Lisa Stofko tells us, breastfeeding is a trend in the making.

3:07 – Package

Angela Wingard – New mother

Dr. Jeanne Spencer – Family Practitioner

Sue Van Hulle – La Leche Leader

HEALTH / MENTAL HEALTH / DRUGS / ALCOHOL JANUARY

Extra 1/2/01

Host: Leeza Gibbons

As people begin a new year with resolutions to get in shape, Extra looks at workout do's and don'ts to prevent harmful and injurious workouts.

Show #: 010101 Syndicator: Warner Brothers

Extra 1/3/01

Host: Leeza Gibbons

In a regular feature entitled "Daily Dose," Extra examines the links between miscarriages and caffeine, and beer and heart disease.

Show #: 010201 Syndicator: Warner Brothers

Extra 1/8/01

Host: Leeza Gibbons

In a regular feature entitled "Daily Dose," Extra examines ways to work out in cold weather and precautions that should be observed.

Show #: 010701 Syndicator: Warner Brothers

Extra 1/12/01

Host: Leeza Gibbons

Extra profiles a new treatment for Alzheimer's disease involving experimental research

Show #: 011101 Syndicator: Warner Brothers

Extra 1/19/01

Host: Leeza Gibbons

Extra looks at CK eye surgery and the improvements that have made this surgery easier and reduced recovery time.

Show #: 011801 Syndicator: Warner Brothers

Extra 1/30/01

Host: Leeza Gibbons

Extra examined how to make exercise time more efficient to accomodate the busy schedules of working people. A 30 minute exercise program was explained.

Show #: 012901 Syndicator: Warner Brothers

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: HEALTH / MENTAL HEALTH / DRUGS / ALCOHOL FEBRUARY

2/01/01, 5 PM, Thursday Lisa Stofko

BIRTHING TECHNIQUE

It may just be the most memorable event in a woman's life, the birth of a child. Now, an age-old technique intended to ease the pain of childbirth is gaining renewed popularity. Lisa Stofko begins a two-part special report on doula births.

4:04 – Package

Kim Meyers – Mother-to-be

Don Meyers – Father-to-be

Bernie Varner – R.N. / O.B. Nurse

Darla Kamzik – Certified Doula

2/02/01, 5 PM, Friday Lisa Stofko

DOULAS-2

Once considered alternative, doula births are gaining acceptance in the mainstream.. Last night, Lisa Stofko introduced us to a couple planning a doula birth. Tonight, we hear from them and another area couple on how doula works.

3:37 – Package

Kim Meyers – Mother-to-be

Don Meyers – Father-to-be

Carrie Mulkey – New mother

Darla Kamzik – Certified Doula

Joe Mulkey – New father

2/02/01, 11 PM, Friday Jenn Kallin

NEW MRI

UPMC Bedford Memorial Hospital has a new MRI unit. Hospital officials say it will help even the most claustrophobic patients endure a scan.

:42 – SOT/VO

Dr. Raymond Jackson – UMPC Bedford

2/05/01, 5 PM, Monday Jenn Kallin

NO MORE NEEDLES

Most vaccines that deliver a lifetime of protection are delivered by painful injection. But now, new vaccines are being developed that could mean no more needles.

:32 – SOT/VO

Dr. Gregory Glenn – Vaccinologist

2/05/01, 5 PM, Monday Jenn Kallin

SURGERY DELAY

When surgery isn't a matter of life or death, most of us tend to put it off. But delaying surgery on knee, shoulder, or leg injuries can make matters worse.

:51 – SOT/VO

Dr. Paul Meli – Orthopedic Surgeon

**WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: HEALTH / MENTAL HEALTH / DRUGS /
ALCOHOL FEBRUARY**

2/05/01, 5 PM, Monday Jenn Kallin

LEE HEART

Promoting healthy hearts was the goal of a program today at U-P-M-C Lee Regional in Johnstown. In addition to information and experts on heart care, the program included former heart patients, like our own Marty Radovanic, to offer advice. Organizers say it helps to show how crucial a full-service heart surgery unit is to a community.

:50 – SOT/VO

Dr. Sam Keeley – Heart Surgeon

2/05/01, 5 PM, Monday Lisa Stofko

EMERGENCY CONTRACEPTIVE

It's been called one of the best kept secrets in medicine. The "morning after" pill has long been known to prevent pregnancy after unprotected sex. The trouble is that many women and doctors don't know about it. But as Lisa Stofko reports, that is changing.

1:36 – Package

Candice Graham – College Sophomore

Sharon Camp – President Women's Capital Corp.

Dr. Mimi Zieman – Grady/Emory Health

2/06/01, 5 PM, Tuesday Jenn Kallin

OSTEOPOROSIS

Osteoporosis – It's a fact of life for 10 million Americans. But researchers tell us we should be doing a better job of preventing fractures that come with the disease.

:52 – SOT/VO

Dr. Robert Lindsay – Chief of Internal Medicine

2/06/01, 5:30 PM, Tuesday Carmen Grant

SUPERSIZED MEALS

Compared with people in other countries, Americans prefer things faster and bigger, from cars to what they eat. Carmen Grant takes a look at those supersized menus for people on the go and just big they are on nutrition and health.

1:22 – Package

Randy Grabill – Altoona Hospital

Amy Stiffler – Martinsburg

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: HEALTH / MENTAL HEALTH / DRUGS / ALCOHOL FEBRUARY

2/07/01, 5 PM, Wednesday Dr. Mike Rosen

FLAT HEADS

A health concern among infants is affecting more babies, in part because of the way parents put their children to sleep. We're not talking about Sudden Infant Death Syndrome. Instead, it's a condition commonly known as flat heads. NewsCenter 6's medical reporter Dr. Mike Rosen tells us why it's happening.

3:15 – Package

Christina Ratti – Mother

Dr. Ian Pollack – Children's Hospital

Kristi Hannan – William's Mother

2/08/01, 5 PM, Thursday Dr. Mike Rosen

PREEMIES

When should doctors and parents try to keep an extremely premature infant alive using the latest technology? It's a hotly debated topic these days. Recent studies have pointed to long term disability being common among the most premature infants who survive. Dr. Mike Rosen has more in this NewsCenter 6 special report.

3:43 – Package

Dr. Robert Guthrie – Neonatal Specialist

Rhonda Merhaut – Molly's Mom

Sherry Risky – Sarah's Mom

Julie Mastroianni – Alicia's Mom

Joe Merhaut – Molly's Dad

2/08/01, 11 PM, Thursday Lisa Stofko

FREE PRESCRIPTIONS

Imagine getting the prescription drugs you need for free. With the cost of medication higher than it has ever been, a little known program is helping consumers hardest hit by the increasing drug prices get the medication they need. How does it work? Lisa Stofko reports.

2:52 – Package

Micheline Charlies – Relies on prescriptions

Jerry Geist – Pharmacist

Nikki Oliver – Gets free prescriptions

2/09/01, 11 PM, Friday Jenn Kallin

BLACK LUNG

For years, Pennsylvania miners inhaled coal dust. Now hundreds are suffering from black lung disease. For nearly 30 years, coal miners and their surviving spouses have been eligible to apply for benefits for black lung. It appears however, that getting approval for those benefits is another matter.

1:07 – Package

Joe Kencec – Retired miner

Cecil Roberts – Union President

Aldo Davella – Retired miner

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: HEALTH / MENTAL HEALTH / DRUGS / ALCOHOL FEBRUARY

2/12/01, 5:00 PM, Monday Jenn Kallin

BIRTH CONTROL

There's been a controversy ever since birth control pills hit the market. Do they or don't they cause women to gain weight? Some women stop using contraceptives for just that reason.

:46 – SOT/VO

Susan Wysocki RN – National Association of Nurses

2/12/01, 6 PM, Monday Jenn Kallin

WOMEN HEALTH MISTAKES

Tonight we begin a five part series – important health information that could affect you. We are talking about the five biggest health mistakes that women make. We begin with a detrimental error in judgement, putting off pap smears.

3:11 – Package

Dr. Adib Khouzami - Conemaugh OB/GYN Assoc.

We have a panel of local health experts standing by to take your calls and questions. The toll free number is on your screen. If you have a question about a woman's health issue or condition, you can call right now to get some answers.

2/13/01, 5 / 11 PM, Tuesday Jenn Kallin

NATURAL BYPASS

Doctors are now treating heart patients without surgery. They're using E-E-C-P or Enhanced External Counter Pulsation to help restore blood flow to the heart muscle. It's a natural bypass that sends blood to the coronary arteries when the heart relaxes, helping them heal themselves.

:46 – SOT/VO

Dr. Kenneth Kronhaus – Cardiologist

2/13/01, 5 / 11 PM, Tuesday Jenn Kallin

COATED STENTS

Coronary artery stents are one off the most vital tools physicians have to keep blocked vessels open. But arteries can get reblocked after their implanted. Now, a new type of stent is coated with a blood thinner called heparin that's slowly released to prevent blockages.

:44 – SOT/VO

Dr. Howard Bush – Cardiologist

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: HEALTH / MENTAL HEALTH / DRUGS / ALCOHOL FEBRUARY

2/13/01, 6 PM, Tuesday Jenn Kallin

WOMEN's HEALTH MISTAKES PART 2

It's a disease that will strike one in eight women. Breast cancer claims the lives of about 40-thousand women each year. But thanks to early detection and prevention, many women are beating the odds. Survival rates are skyrocketing but there's much more work to be done. It's one of the five biggest mistakes women make – neglecting breast exams.

3:09 – Package

Gerard Garguilo – Breast surgeon

Diane Pringle – Windber Medical Center

We have a panel of local health experts standing by to take your calls and questions. The toll free number is on your screen. If you have a question about a woman's health issue or condition, you can call right now to get some answers.

2/14/01, 6 PM, Wednesday Jenn Kallin

WOMEN's HEALTH MISTAKES PART 3

Heart disease is the leading killer of women. In fact, women are twice as likely to die from heart disease than all cancers combined. You have one heart and one chance. It's one of the five biggest health mistakes women make – underestimating heart disease. Dr. Charles Oschwald – Johnstown Cardiovascular Assoc.

Peg Dady – Heart attack survivor

Gary Pagano – Windber Healthstyles

We have a panel of local health experts standing by to take your calls and questions. The toll free number is on your screen. If you have a question about a woman's health issue or condition, you can call right now to get some answers.

2/15/01, 11 PM, Wednesday Dr. Mike Rosen

KIDS AND PAIN

It's one of the hardest things for a parent to see, your child in pain. Yet many doctors fail to adequately treat children who are hurting, especially young children. Dr. Mike Rosen has more on why this is and what some hospitals are doing to change this.

3:20 – Package

Erin Newman – Matthews's Mom

Dr. Gavin Fine – Children's Hospital

Jesse Skipper – Pain Patient

2/15/01, 5 PM, Thursday Dr. Mike Rosen

CANCER DRUG

There is important research out tonight concerning a new option in the prevention of breast cancer. The drug raloxifene can significantly lower the risk of invasive breast cancer for women with a history of osteoporosis. As NewsCenter 6's Dr. Mike Rosen tells us, the drug raloxifene could give a similar drug, tamoxifen, a run for the money in breast cancer protection.

1:12 – Package

Dr. Jane Cauley – Pitt Researcher

***WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: HEALTH / MENTAL HEALTH / DRUGS /
ALCOHOL FEBRUARY***

2/15/01, 6 PM, Thursday Jenn Kallin

WOMEN'S HEALTH MISTAKES PART 4

As our special series on the five biggest mistakes women make in health care continue, tonight's mistake – ignoring calcium. We've been taught since grade school that calcium builds strong bones and teeth. Yet national surveys show that many women consume less than half the daily recommended allowances of calcium. It's a mistake that can lead to the loss of independence or even death.

3:57 – Package

Kathy Price – Ultrasound technician

Dr. Ronald Boyle – Radiologist

We have a panel of local health experts standing by to take your calls and questions. The toll free number is on your screen. If you have a question about a woman's health issue or condition, you can call right now to get some answers.

2/16/01, 5 PM, Friday Jenn Kallin

MICRO - LIPO

Liposuction has become one of the most popular cosmetic surgery procedures. The fat-sucking technique usually works well but can cause a lot of bruising and even rippling. But micro-liposuction is minimizing all of that.

:43 – SOT/VO

Dr. Robert Tornambe – Plastic Surgeon

2/16/01, 6 PM, Friday Jenn Kallin

WOMEN'S HEALTH MISTAKES PART 5

Everyone feels the blues at some point in their lives. Feelings of sadness, especially during difficult times, are perfectly normal. But when a person can't snap out of it, that's a sign there's something wrong. Women are twice as likely to get depressed as men. They are also just as likely not to seek treatment. It's one of the five biggest health mistakes women make: denying depression.

3:37 – Package

Tina Wilson – Clinical Social Worker

We have a panel of local health experts standing by to take your calls and questions. The toll free number is on your screen. If you have a question about a woman's health issue or condition, you can call right now to get some answers.

2/19/01, 5 PM, Monday Jenn Kallin

CATARACT SURGERY

You've heard of laser eye surgery for people who want to get rid of their eyeglasses. Now, there's a new laser procedure for removing cataracts.

:35 – SOT/VO

Dr. Neil Martin – Eye surgeon

***WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: HEALTH / MENTAL HEALTH / DRUGS /
ALCOHOL FEBRUARY***

2/20/01, 5 PM, Tuesday Alison Burns

PRENATAL PRECAUTIONS

Babies born in Pennsylvania are healthier today than they were 10 years ago. But there are still some areas where pregnant moms may be putting their newborns at risk. NewsCenter 6's Alison Burns has the latest from Washington.

1:23 – Package

Richard Wertheimer – Child Trends Researcher

You've heard of laser eye surgery for people who want to get rid of their eyeglasses. Now, there's a new laser procedure for removing cataracts.

:35 – SOT/VO

Dr. Neil Martin – Eye surgeon

2/20/01, 5:30 PM, Tuesday Jenn Kallin

VOICE CONTROL SURGERY

Any type of surgery or invasive procedure poses the possibility of infection along with that of human error. But doctors at Altoona Hospital have a new device that is reducing the risks of traditional surgery.

:46 – SOT/VO

Dan Clark – Spokeman Altoona Hospital

2/20/01, 5:30 PM, Tuesday Jenn Kallin

TETNUS SHOT SHORTAGE

Hospitals nationwide find themselves in a bad situation having to ration a crucial vaccine. Tetnus shots are now being reserved for only those adults with high-risk injuries.

:41 – SOT/VO

Wayne Prescott – UPMC Bedford

2/21/01, 5:30 / 11 PM, Wednesday Lisa Stofko

CANCER CENTER

The University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute and UPMC Lee Regional Hospital announced plans today to open a state-of-the-art cancer center in Johnstown. Officials believe the partnership will fundamentally change the way cancer care is administered in our area. To this time, up to twenty percent of cancer patients had to leave the area for treatment. That's about to change. Lisa Stofko has more.

1:25 – Package

David Davis – UPMC Lee Pres. / CEO

Dr. Paul Woolley – UPMC Lee Dir. Oncology

John Murtha – Rep. 12th District

**WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: HEALTH / MENTAL HEALTH / DRUGS /
ALCOHOL FEBRUARY**

2/21/01, 11 PM, Wednesday Dr. Mike Rosen

FAILURE TO THRIVE

Now a story that will break your heart. There's a medical condition that strikes children without warning. It's called "Failure to Thrive" – a condition that can rob an infant of the innocence of childhood. It takes some time to diagnose and the future is unsure for its victims. Here's Dr. Mike Rosen with a NewsCenter 6 Special Report.

3:02 – Package

Karen Salego, RN – Children's Hospital

Mike Shulock – Child Life Specialist

2/22/01, 5 PM, Thursday Jenn Kallin

WOMEN AND STRESS

Between the boss, the kids, and the commute, it's easy to see why so many women feel stressed out these days. Without the proper attention, stress can cause emotional and physical health problems. However, there are ways to keep the pressure from getting the best of you.

1:36 – Package

Lynn Ganz – Working single parent

Shellie Lawlor – EKINDNESS.COM

Dr. Margaret Blowstein – Trauma Center

Pam Frailey – Human Resource Manager

2/22/01, 5:30 PM, Thursday Jenn Kallin

ECSTASY BREAKOUT

A recent government survey has found that illegal drug use among 8th, 10th, and 12th graders has leveled off – but there's one exception. The use of ecstasy is on the rise! Recent studies link ecstasy to long term damage to parts of the brain critical to thought and memory. There are also other dangerous side effects.

:53 – SOT/VO

Dr. Skip James – Wyoming Valley Health Care

2/23/01, 11 PM, Friday Jenn Kallin

FILTERED BLOOD

Is our nation's blood supply as safe as it could be? When it comes to the availability of filtered blood for patients needing transfusions, the answer is – not always.

1:04 – Package

Dr. R.O. McClure – Medical Director Riverview Hospital

Dr. Joseph Sweeney – Director Transfusion Medicine

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: HEALTH / MENTAL HEALTH / DRUGS / ALCOHOL FEBRUARY

2/26/01, 5 11 PM, Monday Dr. Mike Rosen

HEART HOLE

Doctors in Pittsburgh are using a non-surgical procedure to repair holes in children's hearts. It's a new alternative for an extremely common condition affecting one in every 15 hundred kids. Dr. Mike Rosen reports.

2:11 – Package

Bill McKee – Patient's father

Dr. Jose Ettedgui – Cardiologist

Suzanne McKee – Patient's Mom

Alexa McKee – Patient

2/26/01, 5 PM, Monday Lisa Stofko

FEMALE FOODS

Three out of four women don't get the recommended daily allowance of calcium they need. Some say the answer to this problem lies in nutritionally enriched foods that are gender-specific. But are these products more hype than help? Lisa Stofko reports.

1:41 – Package

Kathy Price – Consumer

Sheila Clem – Consumer

Nina Olexo – Registered Dietician

2/26/01, 5 PM, Monday Amber Lee

BLOOD PRODUCTS

Blood supplies throughout the country have been running low, so low that some types are at critical levels. So why would some blood banks actually throw away usable blood? Amber Lee from our sister station in Oakland California takes a look.

4:35 – Package

Dr. Brad Lewis – Hematologist

Jim Ghidella – Hemochromatosis Patient

Dr. Nora Hirschler – Hematologist

Janet McDonald – FDA Spokeswoman

Jim Kruse – Alameda, California

Brian Rhoa – Alameda County Blood Bank

Rich Quan – Blood Donor

2/26/01, 11 PM, Monday Robin Dewind

ACNE DRUG

Many of you may remember struggling with acne as a teenager. Most people grow out of it. But for millions of Americans, acne is a devastating problem. While there are drugs available for treatment, they have serious side effects. Tonight there is new hope in the form of a new treatment and you may be able to take part in testing this new medication. Robin Dewind explains.

1:23 – Package

Jennifer Heuther – Acne Sufferer

Dr. Robert Loss – Dermatologist

***WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: HEALTH / MENTAL HEALTH / DRUGS /
ALCOHOL FEBRUARY***

2/27/01, 5 PM, Tuesday Lisa Stofko

OBESE KIDS

It's becoming a serious health problem. More and more children are obese. Tonight, Lisa Stofko begins a two-part special report exploring the growing problem of childhood obesity. And she gets a little help from the experts.

2:41 – Package

Jared Fogle – Overweight child

Dr. Matthew Masiello – Memorial Medical Center

2/28/01, 5 PM, Wednesday Lisa Stofko

OBESE KIDS PART 2

The number of children considered obese has doubled in the last 20-years. The sharpest increase has come in the last decade. What about our lifestyles has changed? What can families do about it? Lisa Stofko has some answers in Part 2 of our NewsCenter 6 special report.

3:00 – Package

Kimberly Jenna – Struggles with weight

Dr. Matthew Masiello – Pediatrician

Laura DiGiorgio – Registered Dietician

HEALTH / MENTAL HEALTH / DRUGS / ALCOHOL . . .
FEBRUARY

EXTRA 2/06/01

Host: Leeza Gibbons

In a segment, Extra looks at the latest studies on who is at risk for a heart attack. They give the warning signs and enumerate lifestyle changes to address the risks.

SHOW # 20501

Syndicator: Warner Brothers

MAURY 2/14/01

Host: Maury Povich

The show profiles children who suffer from devastating physical problems and how they cope with the problems. Information is presented on progeria, a premature aging disease, an incurable skin disease that covers the skin with scales, and a child balding condition.

SHOW # 21401

Syndicator: Studios USA

EXTRA 2/15/01

Host: Leeza Gibbons

In one segment, Extra compares the costs and side effects from the use of viagra to the use of natural sex herbs.

SHOW # 21401

Syndicator: Warner Brothers

EXTRA 2/20/01

Host: Leeza Gibbons

In one segment, Extra looks at the padvantages and disadvantages of Lasik eye surgery.

SHOW # 21901

Syndicator: Warner Brothers

EXTRA 2/26/01

Host: Leeza Gibbons

In one segment, Extra examines how to eat healthy when you are away from home. Information on good nutrition is also presented.

SHOW # 22301

Syndicator: Warner Brothers

***HEALTH / MENTAL HEALTH / DRUGS / ALCOHOL . . .
FEBRUARY***

EXTRA 2/28/01

Host: Leeza Gibbons

In one segment, Dr. Bruce examines diet pills to warn about the dangers associated with their use and misuse.

SHOW # 22701

Syndicator: Warner Brothers

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: HEALTH / MENTAL HEALTH / DRUGS / ALCOHOL . . . MARCH

3/01/01, 5 PM, Thursday Jenn Kallin

EAR INFECTIONS

Ear infections are the most common pediatric diagnosis in this country. But there is now a new way to battle the bug without using antibiotics.

:53 – SOT/VO

Dr. Steven Black – Vaccine Researcher

3/01/01, 11 PM, Thursday Dr. Leigh Vinocur

REVERSE ANOREXIA

On tonight's episode of "E.R." you saw a 16-year old bodybuilder who uses steroids. It's something experts say is becoming more common. Dr. Leigh Vinocur reports on how social pressures to look good can drive some young men to do dangerous things.

1:35 – Package

Andrew Wright – College student

Dr. Angela Guarda – Director of Eating Disorder Program

Arturo Gabbedon – College student

3/01/01, 11 PM, Thursday Jenn Kallin

HEART PUMP

An exciting medical breakthrough for heart patients who need but can't receive a heart transplant. For the first time, a heart-assist pump transplant was performed in Dauphin County.

:59 – SOT/VO

Dr. John Boehmer – Penn State Hershey Medical Center

3/05/01, 5:30 / 11 PM, Monday Lisa Stofko

SHOVELING DANGERS

The kind of heavy wet snow that this storm produced can be very dangerous for people who tend to overdo it while shoveling. Lisa Stofko reports and offers some tips for safe shoveling.

1:53 – Package

Idella Kennell – Somerset

Dr. Debasish Chaudhuri – Cardiologist

Roger Forry – Somerset

3/05/01, 11 PM, Monday Cynthia Gibb

STOMACH SHRINKING

Wouldn't it be nice if you didn't have to lift a finger to lose a lot of weight? No exercising, and no counting calories? There is an alternative for people who need to drop a lot of weight. Cynthia Gibb has more on stomach shrinking.

2:10 – Package

Saline Torres – Weight loss patient

Kimberly Butler – Weight loss patient

Dr. Timothy Sifers – Surgeon

***WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: HEALTH / MENTAL HEALTH / DRUGS /
ALCOHOL MARCH***

3/06/01, 11 PM, Tuesday Dr. Mike Rosen

LUNG SURGERY

UPMC in Pittsburgh is one of just a handful of major medical centers nationwide studying a surgery designed to help emphysema patients breathe better. The procedure is called "Lung Volume Reduction Surgery" and involves cutting out diseased parts of the lung. Dr. Mike Rosen has more on how this operation is helping people breathe easier.

2:03 – Package

Robert Satterfield – Emphysema patient

Dr. James Luketich – UPMC Surgeon

Dr. Frank Sciruba – UPMC Pulmonologist

3/07/01, 5 PM, Wednesday Dr. Mike Rosen

ANKLE INJURIES

Is medical rehabilitation really necessary to repair a sprain? An expert in foot and ankle surgery says every sprain should receive rehab but it can be done inexpensively at home. NewsCenter 6's Dr. Mike Rosen has the details

1:45 – Package

Dr. Mike Bowman – Ankle Surgeon

3/06/01, 5:30 PM, Tuesday Rick Shepard

FOOD ALLERGIES

There are about 30-thousand life-threatening allergic reactions to food in this country each year. Many of those result in death. But many experts say those deaths could be prevented with the use of better labels and more awareness on the part of food makers as well as those at risk. More from Rick Shepard.

1:38 – Package

Kris Weaver – Sarah's mother

Dr. Hugh Sampson – Allergy specialist

Anne Fulong – Food Allergy Network

3/07/01, 11 PM, Wednesday Jenn Kallin

OVARIAN CANCER

Could a simple over-the-counter pill you probably already have in your medicine chest help prevent ovarian cancer? Promising new research claims that an aspirin a day may help keep ovarian cancer away.

1:40 – Package

Dr. David Fishman – Northwestern University

Dr. Beth Karlan – Cedars-Sinai Medical Center

***WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: HEALTH / MENTAL HEALTH / DRUGS /
ALCOHOL MARCH***

3/08/01, 5:30 / 11 PM, Thursday Jenn Kallin

BREAST CANCER

A new report says science isn't moving fast enough in the fight against breast cancer. A study by the Institute of Medicine says research needs to be conducted at a faster pace.

1:30 – Package

Julie Willett – Cancer survivor

Jill Dietz – Cleveland Clinic

Dr. Craig Henderson – Institute of Med. Comm.

3/08/01, 11 PM, Thursday Leigh Vinocur

INSECTICIDE POISONS

On tonight's episode of E.R. you saw Dr. Greene treat a teenager who was accidentally poisoned by insecticides from a nursery. How can you protect your kids from this risk? Dr. Leigh Vinocur has some tips every parent needs to know.

1:14 – Package

Dr. Bruce Anderson – Director Maryland Poison Center

Dr. Lynn Goldman – Prof. Of Environmental Health

3/09/01, 5 PM, Friday Jenn Kallin

COLON CANCER

Colorectal cancer is the second leading cancer killer in the United States. But it's still a cancer that is rarely talked about. The Center for Disease Control finds too many people avoid screening because they are either embarrassed, uncomfortable, or unknowing.

2:11 – Package

Denise Lokesak – Colorectal cancer survivor

Dr. Richard Wozniak – Conemaugh Health System

3/12/01, 5 / 6 PM, Monday Lisa Stofko

SUICIDE COUNTIES

The suicide rates in Cambria and Blair Counties are one and one-half times the national average. There is a stigma attached to suicide – we just don't talk about it. But officials say that's exactly what has to happen if we're going to prevent it. Lisa Stofko joins us live with more.

1:02 – Package

:19 – Live

Tina Henderson – Yellow Ribbon Program

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: HEALTH / MENTAL HEALTH / DRUGS / ALCOHOL MARCH

3/12/01, 5 PM, Monday Jenn Kallin

ADULT VACCINATIONS

You may think shots are just for kids. However, doctors say shots are just as important for grown-ups to stay up-to-date on recommended vaccines.

:44 – SOT/VO

Dr. Sandra Fryhofer – Internal medicine

3/12/01, 11 PM, Monday Julie Sidoni

GAMBLING DRUG

Pop a pill – stop compulsive gambling. Sounds too good to be true. Right? That's exactly what researchers are trying to find out. Julie Sidoni is working this story and she joins us now live with more.

1:00 – Package

:15 – Live

Robert Amity – Pharmacist

Dana Ramirez – Penn National

3/12/01, 11 PM, Monday Jenn Kallin

FEMALE FATIGUE

Exhaustion. It's the number one complaint doctors hear from women. But in most cases, there's no disease linked to it. But there are ways to fight female fatigue.

2:56 – Package

Dr. Karen Koffer – Integrative medicine

Sheila Sharma – Patient

Dr. Don Novey – Medical Director

3/14/01, 5 PM, Wednesday Jenn Kallin

LEG PAIN

Stroke is the leading cause of disability and the third leading cause of death in this country. Unfortunately, many people ignore one of the leading symptoms that indicate a stroke may soon happen, leg pain.

:43 – SOT/VO

Dr. Jeffrey Borer – Presbyterian Hospital

3/15/01, 11 PM, Thursday Jenn Kallin

UNINSURED ER

Earlier tonight on "E.R.", Dr. Romano got into trouble denying care to an uninsured man. Over the past decade, the number of uninsured has grown by about a million per year. But E.R.'s can not discriminate against anyone because of their ability to pay. It's a fact that many of the uninsured don't know and the reason why they don't always seek the care they need.

1:15 – Package

Rose Ward – Uninsured patient

Dr. Michael Rapp – American College of Medicine

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: HEALTH / MENTAL HEALTH / DRUGS / ALCOHOL MARCH

3/16/01, 5 PM, Friday Dr. Mike Rosen

TRIGLICERIDES / CARDIAC ARREST

A new study by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention shows that the rate of young people dying from sudden cardiac-arrest has soared in the last ten years. Part of the problem is many of those young people have blockages of their coronary arteries. Dr. Mike Rosen has the details on an under appreciated risk factor that's now getting more attention.

2:15 – Package

Rick Cuyba – Patient

Dr. Bryan Donohue – Cardiologist

3/16/01, 11 PM, Friday Anna Holoman

HIGH DRUG COSTS

It's one of the biggest expenses for many senior citizens – prescription drugs. There are drug programs that help cover the costs for those people at or below poverty level. But what about those senior citizens that don't meet the guidelines to get help? As Ana Holoman found out, in many cases, these seniors are cutting deals with death.

2:38 – Package

Rose Tripp – Can't afford medicine

Louisa Cox – Area Agency on Aging

Ruth Parish – Pharmacist

3/19/01, 5 PM, Monday Jane McGarry

PRECLAMPSIA

Preeclampsia is a potentially deadly disorder that occurs without warning during pregnancy. It is marked by rapidly increasing blood pressure and the worst part – there are no tests to detect that it's coming. But scientists just may have found a way to predict preeclampsia before a mother's life is on the line. Jane McGarry reports.

1:48 – Package

Cari Brunelle – Had preeclampsia

Dr. Jessica Arluck – OB / GYN

K. Bridget Brosnihan – Hypertension researcher

3/20/01, 5 PM, Tuesday Jenn Kallin

WALKING PACE

Doctors have always told us that walking is good for our health but most walkers have tried to keep a good brisk pace. A study in this week's Journal of the American Medical Association found that the time spent walking is more important than the pace.

:53 – Package

Dr. I-Min Lee – Brigham & Women's Hospital

**WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: HEALTH / MENTAL HEALTH / DRUGS /
ALCOHOL MARCH**

3/20/01, 5 PM, Tuesday Jenn Kallin

NEW AIDS DRUGS

There is promising news in the battle against aids tonight. Clinical trials of a new type of anti-aids drug are showing positive results.

:40 – SOT/VO

Coleen Cunningham – T-20 Investigator

3/21/01, 11 PM, Wednesday Jenn Kallin

ECSTASY KIDS

The government says that the use of most drugs by teenagers hasn't risen much over the last few years. But there is one exception . . . the club drug ecstasy. More young people across the country are popping the pills and that includes kids here in Central Pennsylvania. The question is why?

1:11 – Package

"Pooh Bear" – Ecstasy user

Donald Vereen – National Drug Control Office

Chuck Winwood – U.S. Customs Official

3/22/01, 6 PM, Thursday Jon Meyer

NURSING HOME SHORTAGES

The elderly population in our region is growing rapidly. But the number of people willing to take care of older Pennsylvanians is not. Jon Meyer tells us why long term care givers are hard to find.

1:20 – Package

Dana Tsikalas – Home Administrator

Karen Stouffer – Care giver

3/22/01, 11 PM, Thursday Miranda Gresko

HUFFING TEENS

Last week we told you about a new way teens are using to get high. It comes from sniffing fumes from regular household products and the alarming thing is – anyone can get a hold of them. Miranda Gresko has been working this story and she joins us live now with more.

1:04 – Package

:22 - Live

Phyllis Knepp – West Decatur

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: HEALTH / MENTAL HEALTH / DRUGS / ALCOHOL MARCH

3/22/01, 11 PM, Thursday Jenn Kallin

HYPOTHERMIA

On tonight's episode of E.R. you saw Dr. Carter treat a man suffering from severe hypothermia after prolonged exposure to the elements. Hypothermia is the number one killer of outdoor enthusiasts. As Jenn Kallin reports, warmer spring temperatures don't necessarily mean the threat of hypothermia disappears.

1:15 – Package

Lydia Chalmers – Hiker

Dr. David Meyers – Sinai Hospital

3/23/01, 5 PM, Friday Dr. Ian Smith

BACK PAIN

Doctors say back pain is reaching epidemic proportions in this county. It's second only to the common cold as the reason for lost days of work. But now a major study is expected to have an impact on how doctors treat back pain. Dr. Ian Smith reports.

1:48 – Package

Daniel Gray – Back pain sufferer

Dr. John Bendo – Hospital for Joint Diseases

Dr. Frank Cammisa – Spincare Institute

3/23/01, 11 PM, Friday Dr. Ian Smith

BACK PAIN 2

When you suffer back pain, the last thing you want to do is move. But movement is often the best thing you can do to fight it. Dr. Ian Smith reports on the McKenzie method, a type of physical therapy where patients learn how to control their pain through simple exercises.

1:56 – Package

Jacque Speigel – Back pain patient

Cathy Kiliper – Back pain patient

Aidan O'Connor – Physical therapist

3/26/01, 11 PM, Monday Elaine Quijano

SLEEP DEPRIVATION

It may be no surprise to you that we as a society aren't getting enough quality rest. A new poll by the National Sleep Foundation takes a look at the reasons why. Elaine Quijano reports.

1:24 – Package

Lisa Ragain – Sleep-deprived mother

Colin Lovett – Sleep-deprived father

Richard Gelula – National Sleep Foundation

***WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: HEALTH / MENTAL HEALTH / DRUGS /
ALCOHOL MARCH***

3/27/01, 5 PM, Tuesday Jenn Kallin

ACETAMINOPHEN DANGERS

New warning labels may be added to bottles of Tylenol and other over-the-counter pain medication that contains acetaminophen. Health professionals are concerned that accidental overdoses could cause liver damage.

:50 SOT/VO

Wayne Prescott – UPMC Bedford Memorial

3/29/01, 5 PM, Thursday Jenn Kallin

RICKETS RETURNS

A bone-weakening disease that has been virtually non-existent in the U.S. for decades is making a surprise comeback. Pediatricians believe that rickets is making a comeback because kids aren't drinking enough milk.

:39 – SOT/VO

Dr. Norman Carvalho – Pediatrician

3/30/01, 11 PM, Friday Helen Chickering

ASTHMA I-V

More than 17-million Americans suffer from asthma, and it is the number one reason children miss school and end up in the hospital. But a new therapy could change the way people manage the disease. Helen Chickering has details.

1:08 – Package

Dr. Mark Moss – Asthma Researcher

HEALTH / MENTAL HEALTH / DRUGS / ALCOHOL MARCH

Extra 3/2/01

Host: Leeza Gibbons

In the deature "Ask Doctor Andy," back pain and the latest therapies to relieve the condition are profiled.

Show #: 7154 Syndicator: Warner Brothers

Extra 3/12/01

Host: Leeza Gibbons

One segment examines new treatment for Alzheimer's disease that retards the development of the mental disturbance.

Show #: 7161 Syndicator: Warner Brothers

Extra 3/13/01

Host: Leeza Gibbons

In a regular feature entitle "Daily Dose," Extra offers some remedies for common yet irritating problems like headaches, heartburn, and dry skin.

Show #: 7163 Syndicator: Warner Brothers

Extra 3/28/01

Host: Leeza Gibbons

In one segment, leg problems are examined. Varicose veins are not only ugly; they could be deadly. Now there's a new procedure to vanish varicose veins with no pain, and it's called V-nus Closure procedure.

Show #: 7176 Syndicator: Warner Brothers

Extra 3/29/01

Host: Leeza Gibbons

One segment looks at back pain. For most of us, back pain is annoying. But for millions of others, it can be unbearable. Now there is a revolutionary new procedure to deal with ruptured discs, a major cause of back pain. The minimally evasive procedure, called IDET, involves using a needle and probe to seal the crack in the disc and destroy the nerve that causes the pain.

Show #: 7177 Syndicator: Warner Brothers

MAURY 3/30/01

Host: Maury Povich

The toddlers on today's show weigh as much as some young adults. Each child is living life at a very unhealthy weight and runs the risk of developing some serious medical problems. Dr. Denise Bruner, President of the American Society of Bariatric Physicians offers suggestions to parents who want to see their toddlers achieve a normal weight.

Show #: 033001 Syndicator: Studios USA

WJAC TV LOCAL NEWS: CONSUMER NEWS JANUARY

1/03/01, 5 PM, Wednesday Becky Thompson

FAST FOODS

One way to cut the pounds is to cut out fast foods. Right? Not necessarily. Consumer reporter Becky Thompson says there are some fast foods that won't blow your diet and we all may be missing out on some great nutritional foods.

2:43 - Package

Leslie Bonci - UPMC Nutritionist

1/04/01, 11 PM, Thursday Marty Radovanic

FORD RECALL

If you own a 1995 Ford contour or Mercury mystique, listen up because there could be a problem with your car. It's a problem that prompted Ford to recall about 300-thousand cars.

:35 - VO

1/08/01, 5:30 PM, Monday Rick Shepard

MORTGAGE REFINANCE

The Federal Reserve's cut in short-term interest rates is not expected to affect home mortgage rates. Experts say those rates already reflected an anticipated cut. But mortgage rates have been falling steadily for seven months, and this may be a good time to refinance. Rick Shepard has more in this NewsCenter 6 Consumer Alert.

1:34 - Package

Keith Gumbinger - Financial Analyst

Greg McBride - Bankrate.com

1/09/01, 5:30 PM, Tuesday Jen Kallin

CABLE BOXES

For the past several months, the cable company in Johnstown has been switching from analog to digital. Now, for customers who have not returned their old analog boxes, it may mean a charge of 132-dollars. Customers say it's just the latest in a string of new and higher cable charges.

:59 - SOT/VO

Tammy Rodgers - Cable Customer

Karen Broach - Charter Communications

1/09/01, 5:30 PM, Tuesday Alison Burns, Jen Kallin

ROLLOVER SAFETY RATINGS

There's a new government rating system to help you pick the safest car, truck, or S-U-V. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration today for the first time is rating a vehicle's likelihood of rolling over. Alison Burns is live in Washington with more.

1:33 - Package

:34 - Live

Dr. Sue Bailey - NHTSA Administrator

Sally Greenburg - Consumer's Union

Rick Wagoner - General Motors CEO

Will those results affect people's decisions the next time they shop for a vehicle?

: 48 - SOT/VO

Harry Boyd - Blazer owner